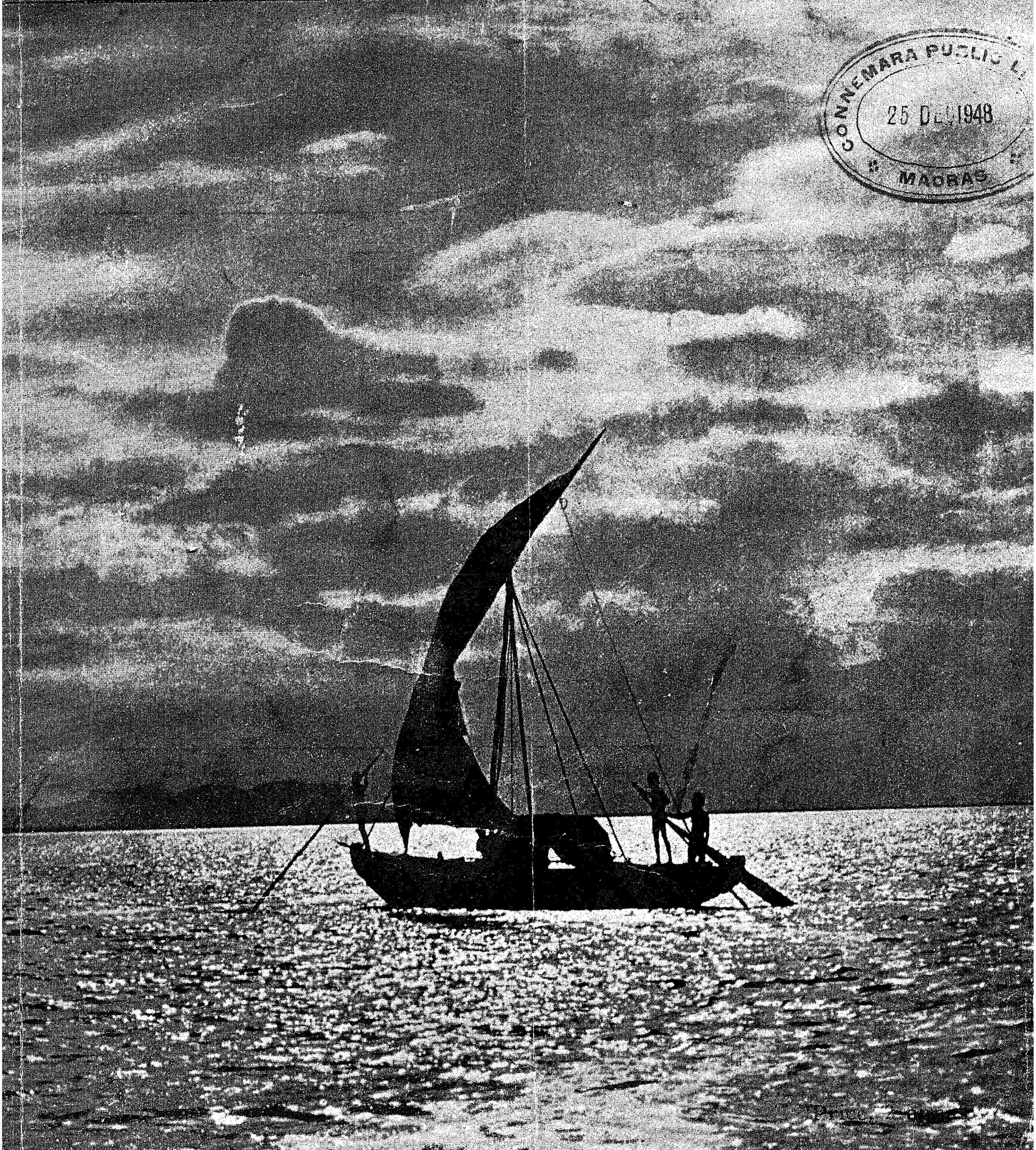
MADRAS INFORMATION

VOL. II MADRAS, 15th DECEMBER 1948 NO. 22



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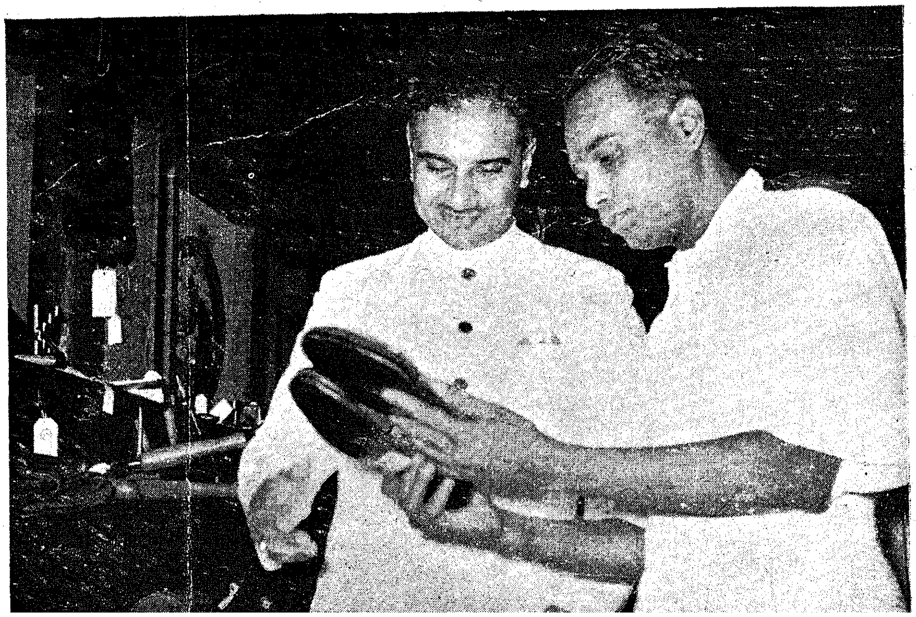
MADRAS EMPLOYMENT SERVICE EXHIBITION—GLIMPSES

His Excellency the Governor addressing a vast gathering in connection with the opening of the exhibition.

26 DEC 1948

A wide variety of articles were exhibited.



His Excellency the Governor examining the leather goods exhibits made by the War Disabled Centre.

Madras Information

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Vol. II, No. 22 "WE SEEK TO SERVE AND NOT TO COMPETE" December 15, 1948

MADRAS

A Glorious Event in Andhra Annals

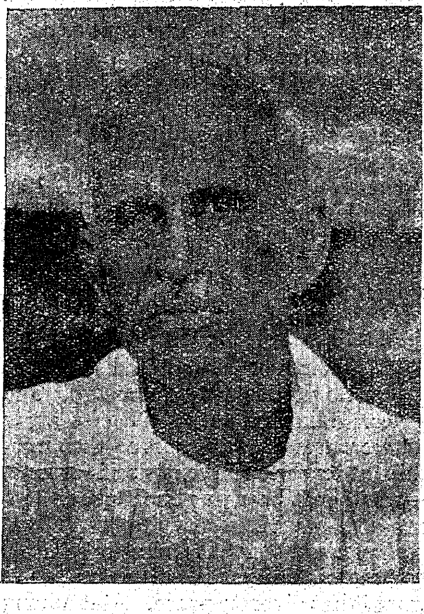
Premier Inagurates Vijayawada Radio Station

"Today the Radio is the greatest leveller in society. By successful community broadcasts and rural programmes, it has become one of the greatest democratic influences of modern times. It brings within reach of the large masses the things in the realm of fine art which until thirty years ago was the privilege of the classes and as an instrument of mass education, it ranks as an invention greater than even printing," observed the Hon'ble Premier of Madras in inaugurating the Vijayawada Radio Station. He said :—

"This day, the new station of Vijayawada goes on air; and with my friends in the Andhra Desa, I rejoice on the occasion, as on an eventful day. The day is eventful not only for the 30 million people in the Andhra Desa, to whom the new station fulfils a long-felt want, but for all those to whom Carnatic music is a perennial joy and Thyagayya's songs a balm to the soul. The new station starts with two distinct advantages. The language of Telugu is acknowledgedly one of the most mellifluous languages in the world and especially suited to successful musical rendering. The other advantage of the new station is that it has before it the inexhaustible treasure-house of Thyagayya's fervent out-pourings to draw upon. Many homes therefore, outside the Andhra Desa, whether they understand Telugu or not will cheerfully tune to the Vijayawada station to listen in to its musical programme. And as good music never cloys, I foresee a great future for the Vijayawada station of the All-India Radio.

Role of the Radio

But the Radio is not a medium merely for musical broadcasting. It has its other uses than transmitting sweet melodies. Today the Radio is the greatest leveller in society. By successful community broadcasts and rural programmes, it has become one of the greatest democratic influences of modern times. It brings within reach of the large masses the things in the realm of fine art which until thirty years ago was the privilege of the



classes; and as an instrument of mass education it ranks as an invention greater than even printing. It is by far cheaper and more instantaneous in effect. The spoken word excites far more than the printed word. Annihilating time and space, this modern marvel makes knowledge universal and easily accessible. At one time the radio was even hailed as the harbinger of better international understanding and potent means of bringing about world peace; and if that has not materialized, if instead, it was seized by power groups and dictators for selfish propaganda, and mutual killing; if bad music and cheap advertisements are put on the air, it is not the radio as an instrument that should be blamed; but the spiritual poverty of those who handle it.

Radio and Adult Education

Without belittling the cultural, artistic and recreational importance of the radio service, the radio stations in India, in my humble opinion, have to devote increasing attention in the direction of adult education. By adult education I do not mean the impersonal teaching of the three R's. What I have in mind is this; this is a land of peasants; and these peasants carry on their ancient avocations untouched by the advancement of modern knowledge. A great many

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things are being done in the laboratory of the scientist regarding agricultural progress; a great many things are done in the Government farms; but these remain mere academic discoveries. The ryot never hears of them; the ryot never understands them. They are not taken to his door and are not explanied to him in the language which he understands. It is here that the Radio has a valuable part to play. Popular songs clothing scientific truths must be composed and broadcast; gripping stories of scientific progress must be written and put on the air. Dramas, dialogues and musical concerts of an interesting and instructive type should be broadcast. The radio artists should shed the notion that art and culture are high-brow matters fit only for the listeners in the carpeted drawing rooms. The artists should so do their write-ups and scripts, and the Station Directors so arrange programmes that service to villagers is maximized. What I said of agricultural progress applies with equal force to a hundred other things on which the villager is denied information, knowledge and guidance. Public health, sanitation, crop and weather forecasts, Government notifications, market information, improved animal husbandry, poultry keeping, cottage industries—all these subjects should be made known to a wider public through popular programmes, through plays, dialogues and songs. Probably the radio stations have a feeling that as the majority of sets are owned by the comparatively well-to-do people, the piper must play to the tune of the pay-master; but let us not forget that ultimately it is the villager who pays. All the prosperity of the upper classes, all the amenities of our urban life ultimately depend on the toil of the peasantry. Creative art must play its homage to creative labour—the labour that creates our food, clothing and other essentials of life. I must say that the Rural Programmes of the Tiruchirappalli and Madras stations of the All-India Radio are popular and useful; but more has to be done on these lines and with a richer variety too. I trust the new Vijayawada Station would develop an extensive rural programme, and if it does, I do not see why, with its other advantages it should not become one of the leading broadcasting stations in our country.

Unity in Diversity

This land of ours is a vast expanse. From Kashmir to Kanya Kumari we have a mosaic as it were with a variety of regional languages and regional cultures. The fostering of these regional languages and regional cultures is of prime importance to the true progress of the people; and yet amidst all this diversity runs the strand of a basic unity. Any regional development to the exclusion of this fundamental unity will ultimately spell disaster. Thirty years ago the poet Bharati in his immortal songs dreamt the vision of an ardent cultural exchange between the various regional groups in India. The organization of the All-India Radio with its ever-growing chain of regional stations is eminently fitted to translate that dream into an actuality; and in this noble task of fostering unity in diversity, I hope and pray that the Vijayawada Station will play its rightful part.

I have heard it said that new stations start with abundant enthusiasm, display great eagerness to be responsive to public wishes and tastes; and then after some time, because they form a part of the Governmental machinery become indifferent and stereo-typed; that the value of personal contacts are forgotten. I hope the Vijayawada Broadcasting Station will function in a genuine spirit of service to the people, ever creative, ever courteous and ever responsive to public opinion. Life ages, but art does never. Life is short, but art is long. It is eternal, ever-progressive and infinite in its scope.

This Blessing......has its Dangers

Modern science is a blind God. It makes no distinction between war and peace. Like Mahadeva, it gifts away its treasures to whomsoever that worships at its shrine fervently and for long,—whether it be a war-like Ravana or a peace-loving Bhakta Sreshta; and perhaps what it has given to war, are more numerous and potent than what it has given to peace. But among the few of science's benefactions to peace, the radio should be counted as one of the foremost. As a science and an art broadcasting was born in the cradle of peace. It developed 28 years ago after the rumblings of the first world war had died down and nations were looking forward to a League of Nations to bring peace and good will on earth. Yet even this blessing that peace has given us has its dangers in the manner in which the radio industry is run and organized. Although we are a big radio-minded and radio-using nation, almost all the essential equipments have to come from outside. This has its dangers, economic and political. Economically, it rules out the possibility of the possession of radio by the large majority of people. An indigenous industry would after some time be able to produce sets and equipments suited to the purchasing power of our people. Politically, it helps concentration of power in the hands of a few foreign manufacturers. The answer to these two dangers is self-reliance and decentralism. Self-reliance can be accomplished by indigenous effort at organization and research—research not only on the industrial technique, and on transmission and reception factors, but also on the art, culture and tastes of people. Decentralism and diffusion of power can be achieved by the establishment of more and more regional stations like the one that goes on the air today.

Andhras' Glorious Past

Vijayawada from many points of view is advantageously located for a broadcasting station. Geographically, it holds the key to important cultural regions, the Andhra Desa to the north, the Rayalaseema and Hyderabad to the west and the Tamil country to the south. It is at the sluice, as it were, of an immense reservoir of Andhra emotion and imagination. Today, in India, next to Bengal perhaps the Andhras are the leaders in the world of art and drama. The city and the people have a glorious past; and the country is surfeit with latent talent. These are encouraging beginnings for the Vijayawada Station. The radio became a possibility by drawing on the cosmic forces of the all-pervading Parasakti. May that Parasakti shower her blessings on the new station of Vijayawada and all those who tune in to listen to it.

MADRAS

A Milestone in Broadcasting

H. E. the Governor's appreciation

Broadcasting in connection with the inauguration of the Vijayawada A.I.R. station His Excellency the Governor of Madras said : " It was very kind of the All-India Radio to have asked me to speak on this occasion—the opening of the Station at Vijayawada and—I would like in the first place to thank them very sincerely for their invitation.

Background

Broadcasting in India has made tremendous strides in these past few years. In 1927, for instance, I understand the number of receiver licences issued was only about 3,500. In 1947, this number had risen to over two lakhs. In a country of this size where ordinary communications are difficult, there is a very great scope for the future of broadcasting and it has been the aim of the All-India Radio to develop their services so as to reach every corner of this land.

It isas part of this scheme of development that this station at Vijayawada has been inaugurated. At present, in this Province, we have two stations—one at Madras and one at Tiruchirappalli, but it has been felt for a long time that another was needed for the predominantly Andhra Region. Vijayawada was chosen—and I think rightly as the focal point for this region. Owing however to the War and the difficulty of getting adequate equipment, this scheme could not be completed till now. I am sure that the establishment of the station now will fulfil a longfelt want for Andhra Desa which has been always both culturally and intellectually one of the most advanced in India.

A Retrospect

Madras Presidency can perhaps boast of greater progress in broadcasting than many other regions in India. We have a total of nearly 45,000 receiver licences of which there are about 8,000 in the Andhra districts. But apart from domestic listening we have also a very large number of community sets which cater for rural areas and which are run by the Provincial Government for the benefit of the villagers. I think the number is about 1,000 and we lead the rest of India. The importance of village listening need hardly be overstressed. It is a common truism that the life of India is the life of the villages and one of the prime objects of broadcasting is to reach these villagers and supply them with entertainment; with instructional items which would be of particular interest to them especially to farmers; and up-to-date news. This, of course, can be successful only if it is put over in the language of the region and I am sure that Vijayawada station would serve a very great purpose in this field.

In addition to these rural sets, this Province also leads in the number of schools which are equipped with radios, the total being about 200. These school broadcasts are extremely useful as supplementing and adding to the ordinary school curriculum; and to develop the listening habit in the young should be one of the major objects for which all school authorities should strive. I hope that with the increased facilities now supplied by this station the number of school radio sets in this region will also increase rapidly until listening-in becomes a habit with the younger generation.

Objectives of Broadcasting

I do not think I need speak at length on the objectives of a national broadcasting system. Broadly speaking they are two ; the first is from the cultural point of view entertainment with music, drama, etc., and there is a very great field for this in the Andhra region with the revival of interest now in folk music and folk dances as well as the more classical styles ; the second is from an instructional point of view which includes not only an up-to-date news service, but also informed talks on current topics by prominent public individuals. Here too this station would serve a widely-felt need for the Andhra districts which are politically and intellectually very much in the forefront of India.

Conclusion

I understand that we are making only a beginning now in Vijayawada and All-India Radio hopes to develop this service so as to reach as wide an area as possible. The radio has become an indispensable part of modern civilisation. It brings up-to-date news, entertainment, and education to our very door and within the reach of all. Though we are not yet so radio-conscious as some of the more highly developed countries of the West, we have made very rapid progress in the last two decades and the establishment of this station marks a milestone on this road of progress. I wish this station every success in future and to my hearers I would say ' good listening to you all.'

My patriotism is subservient to my religion.

Indeed religion should pervade every one of our actions.

Politics bereft of religion is absolute dirt ever to be shunned.

Religion divorced from morality is like ' sounding brass good only for making a noice and breaking heads.'

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

TOPICAL NOTES

Electricity Projects

The Hon'ble Minister for Public Works inspected recently the works on the Pykara dam which forms part of the third stage extensions of Pykara scheme and the Moyar works. The Pykara scheme is the first of its kind in South India. The head works and generating station are located in the picturesque Ootacamund hills. The waters of the Pykara river are utilized for generating power and the scheme is in its final stage of completion. Already the generating station has an installed capacity of 43,000 K.W., which will be increased to 70,000 K.W. by 1953. The first and the second stages were completed in 1933 and 1939 at a total cost of Rs. 362 lakhs and the third stage is expected to cost initially Rs. 326 lakhs, rising to Rs. 490 lakhs in ten years.

In regard to the Moyar hydro-electric scheme, the object is to develop power from the tail waters of the Pykara power-house utilizing a drop of 1,250 feet over the Moyar slopes about 9 miles further north. The Moyar generating station will have an installed capacity of 36,000 K.W. The scheme was sanctioned in December 1945 and the construction is well under way. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 358 lakhs and is expected to be completed by 1952. This is also intended to meet the increasing demand for power in the Mettur and the Pykara systems.

There are also several projected schemes in Ootacamund area. A Special Officer is carrying out hydro-metric surveys in the area and the possibilities are considerable for a number of other schemes of power generation. The most important is the one for generating power from the Kundah river, south of Pykara basin. About 100,000 K.W. of primary and secondary power could be generated.

Co-operative Milk Supply Society

The Tiruvanmayoor Co-operative Milk Supply Society organized for the benefit of the ex-tappers at Tiruvanmayoor near Adayar was inaugurated recently by the Hon'ble Sri K. Chandramouli, Minister for Local Administration and Co-operation. The Hon'ble Minister referred to Government's sympathy for the ex-tappers. He exhorted them to learn a trade and to work hard and earn a living. The Government have undertaken various ameliorative measures. If they could organize themselves into co-operative societies for carrying on any industry like weaving, spinning or coir making, Government would be prepared to render such assistance as may be necessary. Through Co-operation alone the poorman can improve economically.

In conclusion, he appealed to the members of the milk supply society to work it successfully and steadily to build up its business.

Discipline is the Essence of Life

Delivering the convocation address recently at the Allahabad University, Hon'ble Sardar Patel stressed among other things the value of discipline. His words bear repetition. He said:

"Discipline is the very essence of life. Without it anarchy and chaos are only a matter of time. It is as essential in your class-room and on your playing fields as in your future career. The country needs a trained and disciplined youth and not a rabble or irresponsible hot-heads. Similarly, you must have a vision and idealism. Unless you have a proud vision of the future of your motherland and an idealistic conception of her greatness and destiny, you can hardly realize the true measure of your present duties and responsibilities. But you must appreciate that in order to be able to do something in your life, you must always have your feet firmly planted on the ground. Mere vision and idealism can lead you nowhere. You must translate these into hard facts and achieve your objectives in the grim field of realities. You must remember that it is the height of tragedy to have one's high ambitions self-defeated. Instead, you must be made of the stuff which challenges pre-destined fate and mocks at adversities. Above all, you must have the freedom of your motherland as the constant object of your care, devotion and attention. In whatever country or clime you may be, whatever may be your occupation or calling, you must constantly advance the interest of your country, uphold its honour and prestige, and promote the moral and material progress of your poverty-stricken countrymen. Do nothing which places the freedom of the country in jeopardy but be constantly alert and active to safeguard it even at the cost of your life."

Ex-Tappers and Others

Co-operative Milk Supply received an impetus in the Prohibition districts as a means of relieving unemployment, among the ex-tappers and as a measure of amelioration of the economic condition of the ex-addicts and others. The main objects with which the co-operative milk supply unions and societies were formed as part of the ameliorative measures are to find employment to ex-tappers thrown out of work, to improve the economic condition of the ex-addicts by providing them with subsidiary occupations and incidentally to relieve the milk scarcity in the urban areas. Government have given generous assistance to encourage the formation of these societies by giving subsidy to meet the working expenses of the milk supply societies at a rate ordinarily of Rs. 100 per mensem for each feeder society. They have also provided free of cost the services of Senior Inspectors for organizing feeder societies and supervising the working of the scheme generally. In a few cases they have also sanctioned subsidy for purchase of utensils and other equipments. Dairying has been encouraged not only through the formation of separate milk supply societies but as a subsidiary

occupation by the members of Jaggery Manufacturing Co-operative Societies who are all ex-tappers. In this case, the members take up dairying as an additional occupation to tapping of sweet juice for jaggery manufacture.

Though the scheme of milk supply organizations in prohibition districts is primarily intended to employ ex-tappers, ex-addicts and others who are willing to join the societies are also admitted as members. It will be the aim of the milk supply unions under the scheme to handle about 200 Madras measures of milk to start with and gradually to increase the quantity to 500 Madras measures a day in the course of six months. Interest-free Government loans are sanctioned by the Registrar to the members of the milk supply societies under the scheme for the purchase of milch cattle for the supply of milk to the societies. Every ex-tapper who becomes a member of a milk supply society will be elgible for a loan up to Rs. 250 ordinarily and he is expected to pay the loan within a period of one year by supplying milk to the society. To enable the poor ex-tappers to become members of these societies and get loans for the purchase of milch animals, they have been permitted to pay their share capital in easy instalments.

The scheme for the formation of co-operative milk supply organizations in order to provide employment to the ex-tappers was first introduced at Ambur in North Arcot district, where a milk-supply union was formed exclusively for the benefit of ex-tappers. On the 30th September 1948, there were 402 members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 6,402 in 5 feeder societies. The sixth feeder society has just been formed. The feeder societies produced up to September 1948, 45,839 Madras measures of milk valued at Rs. 39,111–13–0. In the Union, there were 7 society members and 40 individual members with a paid-up share capital of Rs. 2,750. The union produced 46,271 Madras measures of milk worth Rs. 39,462 and sold 45,975 Madras measures of milk worth Rs. 42,127 and 212 Madras measures of by-products worth Rs. 203. The average daily quantity of milk handled by the Union is about 175 Madras measures. A similar scheme is under way in Tiruchirappali district.

About 80 ex-tappers and 100 ex-addicts and others have been benefited by this scheme. Five feeder societies have so far been formed of which three have started production of milk. In the Tanjore district Government have approved a scheme for the formation of 4 feeder societies to be affiliated to the Tanjore Milk-Supply Union. About 200 ex-tappers have been benefited by this scheme. A milk-supply society has been formed in Bellary town for the benefit of 40 persons, mostly ex-tappers. Government have also approved the proposal in respect of the Anantapur with 8 feeder societies. Similar milk-supply schemes have been sanctioned to be worked at Tiruturaipundi in Tanjore district, at Usilampatti and Periakulam in Madura district, at Kugalur and Karattadipalayam in the Coimbatore district, and at Madanapalle in the Chittoor district. Five feeder societies affiliated to the Madanapalle union will receive subsidy under the scheme. In Madura district, 3 feeder societies in the Usilampatti area and 6 feeder societies in Periakulam area have been sanctioned subsidy. Proposals for the formation of milk supply unions in other parts of the Province are under consideration.

Co-operative societies for manufacture of palmyra jaggery have been formed in most of the prohibition districts. Manufacture of palmyra jaggery however is a seasonal industry and as a measure of encouraging dairying as a subsidiary occupation, Government have extended the concession of grant of interest-free Government loans for purchase of milch animals to members of these societies. Under this scheme members of the jaggery manufacturing societies will be eligible for a loan of Rs. 250 subject to necessary share qualifications according to the by-laws. Societies situated near the urban areas can more easily take advantage of this concession as they can easily find a sale for the milk in the towns. If they are situated in remote villages not connected by proper communications, the milk can be converted into ghee and sold in the urban areas. Under this scheme 5 jaggery societies in the Malabar district have undertaken to function as milk-supply societies with a union at Palghat to be formed for the purpose. The five jaggery societies which are to function as feeder societies for milk supply have been sanctioned subsidy by Government.

It is proposed to form similar milk-supply societies particularly for the benefit of ex-tappers and ex-addicts, in select suitable centres in other districts also. It is expected that as a result of the introduction of Prohibition and of the help that will be extended to these organizations by Government, a notable advance will be made in improving the economic condition of the ex-tappers and ex-addicts and also in solving the problem of urban milk supply.

The problem of augmenting urban milk supply is intimately connected with the improvement of animal husbandry. Steps have therefore been taken to organize cattle breeding societies at suitable centres in the districts.

RELIGION

"Religion is for the purpose of restraining our baser tendencies and helping the good in us to become better. All religions in all countries have been thus conceived and promoted by the founders and early disciples of the various faiths. In recent times when men have come into conflict with one another over material affairs, they have used religion as a war-cry. This is wholly contrary to the original intentions of those who preached religion.

"In whatever form it may be, all religions preach the same thing. Let us not make of religion another instrument for pride and hatred, but realize in it an instrument for human progress in the truest sense.

—H.E. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

Prohibition

Speaking recently at the conference of constructive workers in Vizagapatam district Hon'ble Dr. S. Gurubatham referred *inter alia* to Prohibition. He said:

Madras Government has done two great things. Prohibition is the one and the Zamindari reform is the other. These have liberated forces in the country which if properly marshalled will bring great good to the country. It is not the Government that can do this; but only people should do it. We are losing 20 crores on account of Prohibition, 17½ crores as loss of revenue and 2½ crores for enforcing it. If you could help us to prevent illicit distillation you are helping the country a lot. Merchants exploited the drinkers. They were getting a profit of about 50 crores out of this drink. This 50 crores and 20 crores which Government were collecting is now left with the people.

Standardization of Bus Fares

The recent standardization of bus fares in the Madras City by the Transport Department has given rise to certain amount of public criticism. It would appear, however, from the trend of much of the criticism that the reasons that prompted this step have not been sufficiently widely known or appreciated in spite of statements given by the departmental officers.

The maximum fares leviable for City and mufassal services were laid down by the Government in November 1947 after due publication. There has been no change in that basis and Government have no intention at present of changing that basis.

The programme of nationalization of the City Bus Service commenced in March 1947 and was completed in June 1948. On an examination of the fares charged on the several routes, it was noticed that there was no common basis and that while the full fare leviable under the Government Order, namely, one anna for the first mile and half anna for every subsequent mile were being charged on some routes (route Nos. 2, 7-B, 7-C, 12, 12-A, 13, 14, 16, 17-A, 21, 21-A, 21-B, 22, 24-A and 56), the rates charged on the other routes were less. The difference amounted to 1½ annas in the case of route No. 10, one anna for route Nos. 9, 11, 11-A and 12 and half anna in the remaining cases, on the terminal fares. The position therefore was that while the rate charged on some routes worked out to one anna for the first stage and half anna for every subsequent stage, the fares charged on other routes were less, in one or two instances as little as 3·5 pies per stage after the first, a stage being approximately equal to a mile. The effect of the recent standardization is that the fares are altogether intact in 15 out of 37 routes.

Whatever might have been the justification for these differential fares charged by private operators—competition among the bus concerns themselves or with other forms of transport, special concessions for particular localities or other reasons—Government do not think they will be justified in discriminating between passengers on the different routes and giving special concessions to some at the cost of others. It is of course possible to arrive at a common rate without any increase in fares, by levelling down the rates instead of levelling them up, but it would not then be possible to run the service without incurring loss. The Department has estimated that for reasons unconnected with nationalization, such as increase in the price of petrol, lubricants, tyres, spare parts and other materials and increase in the rates of wages, their monthly running costs have increased by one lakh of rupees and that any reduction in the old fares is entirely out of question. In these circumstances an increase in the fares charged on some routes is justified in pursuance of the policy of introducing a single non-discriminatory standard rate applicable to the whole City.

Employment Service Exhibition

The Regional Employment Organization in Madras recently got up an exhibition, which was opened by His Excellency the Governor. "One of the prime needs of Indian industry now is trained technicians", observed His Excellency the Governor, in the course of a message in connexion with the exhibition. Continuing His Excellency said, "the training centres which are a corollary to these Employment Exchanges play a very important part in supplying this need. Both vocational and technical training are given at these centres and the instruments and articles turned out are of a very high standard. There are still, however, vast numbers of people wanting to be employed and if these Exchanges are to fulfil their purpose, it is necessary that the fullest use should be made of them by those who are seeking labour both skilled and unskilled."

His Excellency appreciated the very rapid progress which Employment Exchanges had made in this country. "Incidentally in Madras," His Excellency said, "the Exchange is also dealing with the question of providing jobs for ex-tappers." Hon'ble Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, in the course of a speech on the occasion of the opening of the exhibition, gave revealing statistics showing the position of Employment Organization in the Province. The total number of persons who have registered their names at the Employment Exchanges is 339,502 up to 1st November 1948. The total number for whom employment has been secured is 92,460. The total number on the live register now is 40,845. There are 32 technical training centres, with a sanctioned strength of 3,138 hands. The number undergoing training is 2,654 while 2,916 have left after training. In addition to technical training, there is a scheme for vocational training which covers a wide range of trades and occupations. There are 17 vocational training centres. There are besides a number of co-operative motor transport societies for ex-servicemen where many people are employed. There are also a number of land colonization schemes run on co-operative basis. Dr. N. Das, PH.D., I.C.S., the Director-General of Resettlement, in the course of his speech referred to the place of Employment Organizations in the present set-up. He said "in the countries of the west, the employment service is a reality. It is an essential feature of the economy of the country." This organization was started in our country about three years ago and it has had to surmount a good deal of prejudices.

The articles covered in the exhibition included among them household utensils, toys, furniture, precision instruments, woollen and cotton garments, rattan work, mats, musical instruments, travel accessories, etc. The exhibition was an unqualified success.

DEPARTMENTS' ACTIVITIES

Labour Department

Some of the workers of Messrs. Rallis (India), Limited, (Oil Mills) Rayapuram, who were discharged on 15th November 1948 for want of work began to picket with a view to stop the other workers from entering the factory. The other workers also struck work. The Labour Officer, Madras, is looking into the matter.

The workers of the East Asiatic Company, Madras (Oil Mills at Rayapuram), struck work on 3rd November 1948 without notice and the management of the company dismissed from service on 4th November 1948 all those workers who struck work on 3rd November 1948. The management, however, allowed the workers to resume work on 11th November 1948.

The workers of Messrs. George Oakes Workshops, Addison Motor Works, Addison Press and Associated Printers staged a stay-in-strike on 10th November 1948 on the ground that three months' wages as bonus were not paid to them and protesting against the cut in wages for the days of leave granted for enumeration of the workers in connexion with Census. The management declared a lock-out from 11th November 1948. On the advice of the Labour Commissioner, they allowed the workers to resume work on 15th November 1948.

The Tanner, Janab S. R. Abdur Rahiman, Eluru, reported that the workers of his tannery at Eluru struck work without notice on 10th November 1948. The Labour Officer, Vijayawada, intervened and brought about a settlement of the dispute. The workers resumed work on 12th November 1948.

The management of the Commonwealth Weaving Factory at Cannanore, declared a lock-out from 18th October 1948, consequent on the refusal of the workers to accept the increased work-loads recommended by the Standardization Committee. The Government advised the management to have a second shift in order to absorb ~~the~~ retrenched workers. Accordingly, the management re-opened their factory on 1st November 1948 and started a second shift.

[First fornight of November 1948.]

2A

Textile Control Department

The salient features of the Administration Report of the Textile Control Department for 1946-47 are given below :—

The year under review may briefly be called the period of decontrol. During the course of the year, the Central Government announced their decision to decontrol cloth and yarn and consequently the All-India Distribution Schemes of cloth and yarn were given up. The Provincial Government fell in line with the Central Government's policy and repealed the control orders promulgated by them, regulating the production and distribution of yarn and mill cloth, as well as handloom cloth. The orders regulating the exports of handloom cloth to Ceylon, the processing of cloth, and the sale of artificial silk yarn, etc., were also repealed.

Cloth distribution.—The per capita allotment of cloth for the south deficit zone during the year 1947–48 continued to be the same, viz., 10·8 yards including handloom cloth per annum. Unpopular varieties of cloth in the Province continued to be received in the year as well. The Textile Commissioner, Bombay, was asked to send only popular varieties to this Province. With the decontrol of textiles and the abolition of the All-India Cloth Distribution Scheme, a target of 7,655 bales of mill cloth was fixed for this Province.

The rationing of mill cloth introduced in 1946 was abolished with effect from 19th January 1948. During the period under review, certain varieties of mill cloth, viz., khaki drill, khaki twill and all medium varieties with the exception of Mettur mills were excluded from the rationing scheme and this helped the trade to clear their stocks to a large extent.

Committees.—The Committees constituted for associating the public in the administration of textile control measures in the villages, taluks, towns and districts were abolished in view of the decontrol of cloth and yarn.

Cotton yarn.—The scheme of control over distribution of yarn continued to work satisfactorily during the year. The Government pushed through the scheme of bringing more looms into the co-operative fold with the result that there were 121,561 looms at the end of March 1948 as against 70,561 looms at the end of the last year. The ration supply of yarn to the looms had to be curtailed for the reason that there was an increase in the number of looms for which yarn had to be supplied. Under the Madras Handloom Cloth (Control) Order, 1947, it was proposed to take a correct census of looms but it was dropped in view of the decontrol policy of the Government.

Handloom cloth.—In order to fix the maximum weaving wages for handloom cloth, the Government constituted a Provincial Wage Board to advise them on the question of fixing of the wages. Before action could be taken to enforce the notified maximum wages, decontrol was decided on and the question of enforcing wages was dropped. The scheme of control of handloom cloth exported to Ceylon continued to work satisfactorily during the year. The scheme was given up in February 1948 as a result of the progressive decontrol policy of the Government. Representations were received from the trade complaining about huge accumulations of handloom cloth in the Province and the Government allowed exports freely to other provinces. All restrictions on the movement of handloom cloth within the south zone was also removed.

Dyes and chemicals.—The Textile Commissioner, Bombay, authorized the Provincial Textile Commissioner and other Textile Control Officers to exercise in relation to dyes derived from Coal-tar such of his powers under the provisions of the Cotton Textiles (Control) Order, 1948. Dyes derived from Coal-tar were completely excluded from the operation of the Cotton Textiles (Control) Order, 1948, with effect from 27th April 1948.

Enforcement.—Five hundred and eighty-one dealers had contravened the provisions of the various textile control orders and disciplinary action was taken as shown below :—

Licences cancelled ..	391
Licences suspended ..	141
Convicted	37
Discharged	4
Acquittal	6
Withdrawal	2

Mills.—Prosecution was launched during the year against one mill and it is still proceeding. In the case of another mill the accused was acquitted. Another mill has moved the Privy Council for stay of proceedings against it in the lower Court. Two small powerloom factories have been warned

for disposing of their productions without tex-mark. Investigation into the activities of one mill during the year has just been completed and steps are being taken to prosecute it.

The Cannanore Spinning and Weaving Mills started production of yarn in March 1948. This is the only mill started in the South after the war. It has 12,000 spindles and the output on full production will be 6,000 bales per year.

Khadi.—In December 1946, the Government approved a scheme submitted by the Provincial Textile Commissioner for the development of khadi as an integral part of the comprehensive plan of the Government to make the villages in the Province, as far as possible, self-sufficient economic units. The Intensive part of the Scheme aimed at securing self sufficiency in regard to cloth in terms of Khadi and was enforced in seven compact areas where Khadi had been developed to a considerable extent, by the All-India Spinners' Association. The Scheme provided for the issue of cotton to spinners, the buying up of yarn produced by them, at a fixed price and the conversion of the yarn into Khadi, through the agency of trained staff appointed in the centres. The scheme was implemented in the early months of 1947 in all the seven centres. The Madras Khadi Control Order, 1947, designed to facilitate the implementation of the scheme, was promulgated in March 1947. The Provincial Textile Commissioner was in charge of the scheme throughout the year 1947–48.

In order to avoid unhealthy competition from private agencies producing or dealing in Khadi the genuineness of which could not be guaranteed, the Government issued orders in September 1947 that no private agency other than the All-India Spinners' Association and its branches and certified institutions should handle Khadi in the seven Intensive Khadi centres. After allowing time to private dealers to dispose of the stocks held by them at the time, this decision was finally given effect to from 13th February 1948.

In order to implement the ideal of self-sufficiency, arrangements were made to enable the spinners to take back at least a portion of the Khadi produced against the yarn sold by them to the Intensive Khadi centres. A subsidy intended to cover a part of the weaving wages was also paid to the spinners taking cloth produced out of their own yarn, at a rate not exceeding 4 annas per yarn which has been subsequently changed to 9 pies per hank of yarn contained in the cloth. The total quantity of Khadi thus taken up by the self spinners during the year was 368,193 yards and the subsidy paid to them was Rs. 44,580.

The total quantity of Khadi produced during the year in the seven centres was 640,149 yards and the total quantity sold to self-spinners or to the residents of the villages comprising the centres was 304,407 leaving over 335,000 yards with the centres on 31st March 1948. In March 1948, the Government ordered that all officers who have been enjoined to use uniforms should use Khadi for the purpose and that the cloth requirements of the various departments of the Government should be met from Khadi only. It is expected that the surplus Khadi left with the Intensive Khadi centres will be absorbed by the Government departments.

Department of Industries and Commerce

The Department of Industries and Commerce is conducting a Coir Training School and a Coir Factory at Beypore, near Calicut in the Malabar district. Various kinds of coir such as coir yarn, ropes of various thickness, brush and chain mats, of various sizes and patterns, coir carpets, plain and coloured mattings of various sizes and patterns, coir bags, balls, coir brooms and other articles of everyday use are manufactured both in the school and factory at reasonable prices. Orders will be executed promptly and satisfactorily and designs to suit individual tastes will be furnished by the Superintendent in charge without obligation.

Enquiries may be addressed to the Superintendent, Government Coir School, Beypore, Via Kallai, Malabar district.

Firka Development Department

Aims and activities

The Government wish to bring to the notice of the public the true aims and objects of the Firka Development Scheme, which they initiated over a year ago and give a brief account of the work turned out so far. The scheme was the outcome of the recognition that an all-round improvement of rural life demanded high priority among the activities of the Government. The villager had lost the initiative to organize and develop himself and the society around him during a long period of tutelage under foreign rule and had to be awakened to his duties and responsibilities as a citizen of a free nation. His habit of looking to Government for every small work which could be done quickly and satisfactorily by a little co-operation in the village had to be changed. The main objective of the scheme was *therefore* to stimulate initiative among the villagers to organize their economic and social life on co-operative lines with a view to make them self-reliant and self-sufficient. The scheme *will therefore* have to be judged with reference to the extent to which it has succeeded in restoring this initiative and self-reliance to the villagers.

Although the Firka Development work was taken up in 1946, the collection of the necessary statistics and the organization of the preliminaries took some time. A definite scheme was drawn up by a Committee of experienced constructive workers including Sri J. C. Kumarappa, Sri G. Ramachandran and Sri R. R. Keithan only in October 1947 and was introduced in the 34 selected firkas containing 2,859 villages, as an experimental measure. A new technique had to be adopted for the implementation of the scheme in view of the psychological revolution which it aimed to bring about. The work of the various departments of the Government had to be properly co-ordinated to secure the maximum advantage. The progress of the scheme was therefore inevitably slow at the beginning and is conditioned by the availability of a large number of workers with the new outlook. The results so far achieved have however been encouraging and the Government feel that an impartial observer visiting the areas where the scheme has been worked will not fail to be impressed by the change in the mental outlook of the villagers. The Government have started two camps for training workers and have planned to give this training to all workers employed under the scheme. It is hoped that these workers when they return to their firkas will be able to turn out more useful work.

Apart from this silent revolution which the scheme is slowly bringing about in the mental outlook of the

villagers, the work actually done to improve the amenities in the selected firkas has been substantial. Works are generally carried out only where the villagers bring in their contribution either in cash or in the form of labour. Emphasis is also laid on the execution of the works by the villagers benefited to the exclusion of profit-earning outside agencies. The amenities provided make a long list. The following are the more important of them :—

Communications.—Estimates for work valued at Rs. 29,68,255 have so far been prepared in respect of 780 items. One hundred and fifty-three miles of new roads have been laid, 19 roads or rasthas have been repaired or improved, 33 culverts, 12 dams and 7 foot-bridges have been constructed, 2 footpaths have been formed and work on 21 roads is in progress.

Water-supply.—Estimates for work valued at Rs. 13,77,217 have so far been prepared in respect of 682 works. Ninety-two new wells have been sunk and 143 old wells repaired. Work on 221 new wells is in progress. Twenty drinking-water sheds have also been constructed.

Sanitation.—A regular campaign to clean villages has been initiated and workers and villagers are jointly taking part in it in several firkas. Eighty new latrines, about 16 of which are of the Wardha type, were constructed and 120 dust-bins were provided.

Public health.—Nine hospitals and one leprosy clinic have been brought into existence.

Education.—One hundred and sixty-six day schools and 172 night schools have been opened. Seventy-nine reading rooms and 19 central and 181 branch libraries have been started.

Electricity.—The villages in the firkas have been given priority in the extension of electricity. Eight villages of Palladam firka, two villages of Kunda firka, two villages of Shermadevi firka and three villages of Tirumangalam firka have had the benefit of electrical supply so far. Several schemes for the extension of electricity to villages in the firkas have been sanctioned and are under execution. As and when materials are available, they will be pushed through.

Other items.—Two animal husbandry units have been brought into existence, 46 stud bulls have been supplied, 16 poultry units started and 11 radio sets installed.

It will be seen from the above that some appreciable progress has been made. The greater part of this was done during the current year.

The nature of the experiment is such that it cannot yield spectacular results in a short time. The Government welcome constructive and well-informed criticism of their schemes and invite the active co-operation of the public in their endeavour to make villages stronger, healthier and more prosperous and the real inheritors of the newly-won Freedom !

Agricultural Department in 1947-48

The following are among the salient features of the activities of the Department of Agriculture during the year 1947–48 :—

Agricultural education.—Six-hundred and fifty-five applications for admission to the two Agricultural Colleges at Coimbatore and Bapatla were received during the year under report, as against 952 in the previous year. Ninety-six students were selected for each college. Ninety-nine students from the Coimbatore College appeared for the first-year University examination, of whom 80 passed; 94 students appeared for the second year University examination, of whom 79 passed, and 92 students appeared for the third-year University examination, of whom 79 passed. Ninety-four students from Bapatla ollege appeared for the first-year University examination, of whom 77 passed, 100 appeared for the second-year University examination, of whom 78 passed, and 89 appeared for the third-year University examination, of whom 72 passed. The Juvenile and Adult Labourers' Schools at Anakapalle, Samalkot, Palur and Coimbatore continued to function satisfactorily.

Agricultural engineering.—With a view to overcome the difficulties involved in unloading an ordinary double bullock-cart, an improved box cart was designed and manufactured, which could be gradually tilted for unloading without detaching the animals. The manufacture of an improved type of this tilting cart, based on the design of a railway tilting wagon, is being undertaken. An improved paddy thrasher, capable of being worked both with manual labour and mechanical power, was manufactured in the Research Engineer's Workshop and has given encouraging results. A new thrasher is under manufacture. Work is in progress on an improved iron plough of the type used in Tanjore, namely, the Shanti multi-purpose plough.

Propaganda and demonstration.—The district staff concentrated their attention, among others, on the following items of work, with a view to furthering the Grow More Food campaign: (*a*) bringing waste lands under cultivation with the aid of tractors and bull-dozers, wherever possible; (*b*) supply of seed of high yielding strains of food-crops and arranging for seed farms for multiplying pure seeds, for distribution to cultivators; (*c*) popularizing improved cultural, manurial and irrigational practices in growing food-crops; (*d*) increasing the area under short-term food-crops and off-season cultivation of food-crops, and (*e*) distribution of Grow More Food journals, published by the department, to cultivators. The Grow More Food journals "Mezhichelvam" in Tamil and "Padipantalu" in Telugu continued to be published by the department.

Trading schemes.—The scheme for the procurement of entire production of groundnut oil cake from all power-driven mills and rotaries sanctioned by the Government in their Order, dated 8th July 1946, remained in operation till 16th January 1948. On representations made to them by millers and some of their associations, Government ordered on 12th December 1947 that 40 per cent of the production of groundnut oil cake in the mills should be left in the mills for sale through the trade channels, without price control and that the remaining 60 per cent of the production should be compulsorily procured by the department within the ceiling rates. This partial decontrol was given effect to from 17th January 1948. Although the millers promised to deliver increased quantities of cake, the partial decontrol has not produced the anticipated results. Against a production of 200,117 tons in 1946–47, the production in 1947–48 was only 112,344 tons.

Groundnut cake for ryots.—One lakh sixty-one thousand and fifty-one tons of groundnut oil cake were distributed to the ryots during the year. Forty-two thousand two hundred and forty tons of groundnut oil cake were issued in exchange of paddy bonus coupons during the year.

Distribution of iron and steel.—The scheme for the distribution of iron and steel to ryots through the Agricultural department, which was introduced in the Province in the third quarter of 1944, was continued during the year

under report. In addition to supplying agriculturists with the approved and popular types of machines and implements, investigation of the suitability of special machines, designed in other countries for agricultural operations, was also carried out.

Agricultural marketing.—The Marketing Section was reorganized, according to the Government Order, dated 5th April 1948, by setting up regional units in four centres. The object of reorganization is primarily to effect marketing improvements in the mufassal areas by more frequent and direct contact with growers. This scheme was given effect to from 1st June 1948.

Work under legislation.—Sixty-eight ginning factories were inspected by the officers of the Factories Department and the Agricultural Department under the Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Act (Act XII of 1925). The Madras Cotton Control Act, 1932 (Act VII of 1932), continued to be in force in Coimbatore, Madura, Ramnad and Tirunelveli districts and worked satisfactorily.

Receipts and expenditure.—The expenditure during 1947–48 was Rupees 116·75 lakhs, as against Rs. 104·60 lakhs in the previous official year. The receipts during 1947–48 were Rs. 20·37 lakhs, as against Rs. 23·57 lakhs in the previous official year.

Green manure campaign.—A campaign was launched to grow green manure crops in all paddy lands, where water supplies were available and to raise green-leaf yielding and quick-growing shrubs and trees in all available vacant lands and on field bunds and channel edges. Rigorous efforts were also made to procure all the available green manure seeds in the Province for distribution to the ryots of the delta lands.

Research work.—Efforts were made during the year to enlarge the contact between the Research Wing of the Agricultural Department and the cultivators through the district staff, with a view to make the tangible results of research available to the cultivators for increasing production. Work has also been started during the year in compiling the tangible results of research carried out in the Agricultural Research Stations of the Province, for publication in popular languages for the benefit of cultivators.

Miscellaneous

Wynaad Colonization Scheme

The Wynaad Colonization Scheme aims at the reclamation and the colonization of an area of 31,000 acres of cultivable land in the villages of Kidanganad, Nulpuzha, Muppainad and Nenmini in Wynaad taluk, Malabar district, each colonist getting either 2 acres of wet and 5 acres of dry land or 10 acres of dry land. Preliminary items of work such as anti-malarial operations, provision of medical aid, land acquisition, starting of an agricultural farm and construction of roads, etc., have been attended to. The colonization of the area commenced in February 1948 and 545 colonists drawn from ex-servicemen and the existing pattadars and sivaijamadars, including members of aboriginal tribes, have been settled in the area so far. The Government have spent a sum of about Rs. 24 lakhs on the scheme up to the end of June 1948. Advances have been granted to the colonists to the extent of Rs. 2·65 lakhs for land reclamation, construction of temporary huts, agricultural operations, domestic expenditure and construction of wells and latrines. The Government have recently re-examined the whole question of the future policy to be adopted in regard to the Wynaad Colonization Scheme and have decided that the existing colonists may be given advances on the scale already approved by the Government but that no further colonists need be admitted for the present. The Government have also decided to proceed with the formation of a co-operative society for the colonists.

There is a feeling in certain quarters that the Wynaad Colonization Scheme has been dropped. The Government desire to make it clear that there is no truth whatever in this suggestion. The Wynaad Scheme is being continued; it has only been decided not to admit further colonists for the present.

Criminal Courts in 1947

The following are the salient features of the statistics of criminal courts in the Madras Presidency for 1947 :—

Cases.—There was a rise in the number of cases from 636,134 to 709,462 during the year under report. In the mufassal, there was a rise in all districts, except Cuddapah, East Godavari, West Godavari, Guntur, Nellore, the Nilgiris, Tirunelveli and Vizagapatam. There was an increase of more than 5,000 cases in each of the districts of South Arcot, Coimbatore, Malabar and Salem and more than 2,000 in each of the districts of Chittoor, North Arcot and Tiruchirappalli. The increase was most marked in Madura, where it was more than 7,000 and in the Madras City, where there was a rise of more than 35,000 cases. The decrease was marked in Tirunelveli, where there was a fall by more than 5,000 cases.

Mufassal Magistrates' Courts.—The total number of cases instituted in all the Magistrates' courts in the mufassal, other than village and panchayat courts, was 587,620, as against 547,730 in the previous year. The number of cases for disposal during 1947 in the Village Magistrates' Courts was 1,451, as against 2,474 in 1946. Of these, 1,292 were disposed of and 159 were pending at the end of the year. The number of cases for disposal in the panchayat courts was 13,150, as against 14,481 in 1946. Of these, 10,160 cases were disposed of.

Honorary Magistrates.—The Honorary Magistrates continued to afford substantial relief to the Stipendiary Magistrates and their outturn was generally satisfactory.

Presidency Magistrates' Courts.—There was a rise in the number of cases instituted from 75,736 to 111,212.

Mufassal Sessions Courts.—The total number of cases for trial was 1,182 during the year under report, as against 1,950 in 1946. One thousand one hundred and sixty cases were disposed of.

High Court Criminal Sessions.—Including the one case pending from last year, there were 50 cases pending disposal during 1947, as against 42 in 1946. Fifty cases were disposed of. The average duration of cases disposed of was 58 days, as against 59 in the previous year. Out of 20 persons tried for murder, 1 was sentenced to death, 4 for transportation for life, 13 to varying terms of imprisonment and 2 were acquitted.

Appeals.—Five thousand four hundred and thirty-five appeals, concerning 9,586 persons, were decided in appeals, filed in Magistrates' Courts. In the mufassal Sessions Courts, the number of appeals disposed of was 3,136. In the High Court, 202 appeals, were pending at the beginning of the year, and 707 appeals were preferred during the year. Of these 709 appeals were disposed of, leaving 200 pending at the end of the year.

Revision and Reference.—The number of petitions for revision preferred before District Magistrates and Subdivisional Magistrates was 831,

(*Continued on page* 14)

MADRAS

PROHIBITION CORNER

Ameliorative Activities

Ex-addicts Make Substantial Savings

The following is a brief summary of the reports received on the ameliorative activities in the prohibition districts during parts of October and November 1948 :—

Madura.—Thrift day was celebrated. One grama sangam has opened a library. It has also proposed to open a night school. Another grama sangam has opened both a library and a school for adults. Preliminary arrangements have been made regarding the formation of a milk supply society for ex-tappers. Substantial economic improvement of some of the ex-addicts is reported. One grama sangam has constructed a small culvert at a cost of Rs. 75. Another grama sangam has appointed two sweepers to clean the streets. Yet another celebrated a cleanliness day. A milk supply society for ex-tappers has been organized in one place.

Tiruchirappalli.—A village cleanliness day was observed by the Harijans in one place. One grama sangam has put up a statue of Mahatma Gandhi in bronze at a cost of Rs. 1,700.

Salem.—Tournaments tooks place as usual. There was a rural exhibition also.

Tanjore.—Night schools were opened in some places. Inter-village tournaments also took place. The villagers in one place constructed an approach road measuring two furlongs. They also repaired a well. There was a rural exhibition in which most departments of the Government took part. A milk supply union was organized.

Bellary.—The Hon'ble Minister for Local Self-Government laid the foundation stone for a village hall-cum-reading room in one place. Firka tournaments also took place. A co-operative milk supply society for the Tungabhadra dam area was started on work. Thrift scheme was introduced in one society and Hundi boxes were distributed.

Malabar.—A prohibition day was celebrated at one place. A library and reading room was also opened. Two grama sangams were organized in one taluk. One grama sangam formed a road committee in connexion with the construction of a road.

North Arcot.—Thrift campaigns were conducted. A co-operative society for mat weavers was also organized. Proposals for the formation of a cattle breeding society are under way.

Nilgiris.—A fish farm was inaugurated at the instance of the ameliorative staff near Ootacamund. A cattle show was also organized.

Kurnool.—A library and reading room was opened. The Collector also switched on a radio. Sports and Rural games took place as usual. Two libraries and reading rooms were opened in places donated by members of the public.

South Kanara.—Societies for ex-tappers were organized in some places. Night schools and reading rooms were opened in some places. One grama sangam collected Rs. 300 for the installation of a radio set. Sports took place as usual.

Nellore.—Thrift days were celebrated. A firka labour contract society was started on work. Harikathas, Bajanas and Kalakshepams were arranged in several villages. A night school was opened in one place.

Coimbatore.—A reading room was constructed by a grama sangam at a cost of Rs. 4,000. They have also deepened a well as well as purchased a radio set. Another grama sangam has constructed a reading room at a cost of Rs. 3,000. In another place the villagers have constructed a school building at a cost of Rs. 3,000.

East Godavari.—Since the introduction of prohibition several ex-addicts have made substantial savings.

Ramnad.—Three grama sangams have been organized. And also three co-operative milk supply societies and a co-operative egg production society.

Prohibition made State Policy

"The programme of Prohibition has now been incorporated in the constitution of India as a principle of State policy and it is everybody's duty to see to it that this policy succeeds, for the masses cannot be made happy unless drink habit is completely eradicated", observed Mr. Morarji Desai, Minister for Home and Revenue, inaugurating recently a Recreation and Amenities Centre, run by the Bombay City Prohibition Committee, at Northbrook Gardens, Kumbharwada.

The Minister said that it was true that as a result of this policy, the Government would lose a revenue of eight crores of rupees ; but at the same time the poor would be able to save to the tune of about 30 crores of rupees, which amount they might be able to spend on the necessaries of life, such as food, clothes, etc.

Women and children, the Minister said, are the worst sufferers as a result of this vice. He appealed for active support in making Prohibition successful.

DISTRUST

The greatest disease from which the country is suffering now is distrust. We must give an effective medicine to cure that disease. There is no hatred. It is just distrust and misunderstanding. Women are best fitted to remove that distrust among the people We all know that there is not so much distrust among the women of the various communities as among the men of these communities.

—H.E. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

TOWARDS NATION-BUILDING

India's Vast Water Resources

The mean annual supply of water in India's rivers is about 2,300,000 cubic feet per second. Of this, less than six per cent is at present being put to any beneficial use, while the balance runs to waste into the sea.

This was disclosed by Shri N. V. Gadgil, Minister for Works, Mines and Power, Government of India, in a broadcast recently.

Shri Gadgil referred to numerous projects which were contemplated to utilize India's water wealth and said the Cabinet would soon decide priorities as between the different projects. The great supply of water which had uptil now been wasted, said Shri Gadgil, "will soon be turned into wealth". Very soon, he declared, "there will be water for irrigation, power for industries and employment all-round".

"On a rough calculation, the mean annual supply of water in India's rivers is of the order of 2,300,000 cubic feet per second. The mean annual utilization of water for agricultural and other purposes through canals is roughly 133,000 cubic feet per second. This means that less than six per cent of the available water wealth of the rivers is being put to beneficial use and the balance of over 94 per cent is running waste to the sea.

"In addition there is a vast underground reservoir of water of which only about 30,000 cubic feet per second are being utilized at present for irrigation. A very large reserve is still available for further extension. Most of the supply of water is concentrated in the monsoon months and except for the snow-fed rivers emerging from the Himalayas, the other rivers run almost dry during the dry months. It is not impossible to utilize a considerable portion of this water potential to see that there is plenty of water available for irrigation, for domestic use and for power generation.

Irrigation in India

"India to-day is irrigating 70,000,000 acres of land, a figure which is nearly equal to the combined irrigated area in all the other countries of the world put together. Inspite of the immense water resources and their strategic location, India is developing no more than half a million kilowatts of hydro-electric power. It is estimated that if water power potential is properly utilized, it will give 30 to 40 million K.W. India has untold mineral wealth and considerable manpower.

"With cheap power generated from water we can look forward to immense industrial and agricultural development resulting in a general rise in the living standard of the common man and in progressively increasing national wealth and prosperity. Power generated from water has a distinct advantage over power generated from coal or other fuels.

Multi-purpose schemes

"The Government of India has an organization known as the Central Waterpower, Irrigation and Navigation Commission. This organization is in charge of planning multi-purpose schemes. Multi-purpose schemes, briefly, consist of the best utilization of river water for the purpose of controlling floods, supply of water for irrigation, for power generation, for navigation, for drinking purposes and for fish culture. Rivers like the Damodar, the Mahanadi and other rivers are responsible periodically for considerable damage to life and property of people living in the respective valleys. As much harm is caused by famine as by floods. In many multi-purpose schemes the flood aspect is important. The line of approach in all such schemes is to control the floods by having a number of reservoirs in the river basin, regulating the flow, making water available for irrigation, for generating electric power and for big canals so that navigation may be possible, for drinking water to areas roundabout and for fish culture.

"The Damodar Valley Corporation is now established and is working the Damodar Valley Scheme. The Bhakra Scheme, which is to harness the Sutlej water, is being worked by the East Punjab Government. The Mahanadi Project is being worked by the Central Government.

Nature has dispersed our rivers

"Fortunately for this country, the rivers are so dispersed that if all the schemes visualized are completed, prosperity and plenty will be reigning throughout the length and breadth of this country. In East Punjab, the Bhakra Scheme; in Bihar and Bengal, the Damodar Valley Scheme and the Mor Scheme; Kosi in Bihar; Brahmaputra in Assam; the Rihand in U.P.; Narbada and Wainganga in C.P.; Narbada, Tapti, Koyna in Bombay; Ramapadasagar, Tungabhadra, Kristna Pennar and Lower Bhawani in Madras; and Chambal in Central India are some of the big schemes visualized. Some are under construction, others are under investigation. In spite of the fact that there is shortage of material and of technical manpower, every effort is being made to utilize whatever is available to the best advantage.

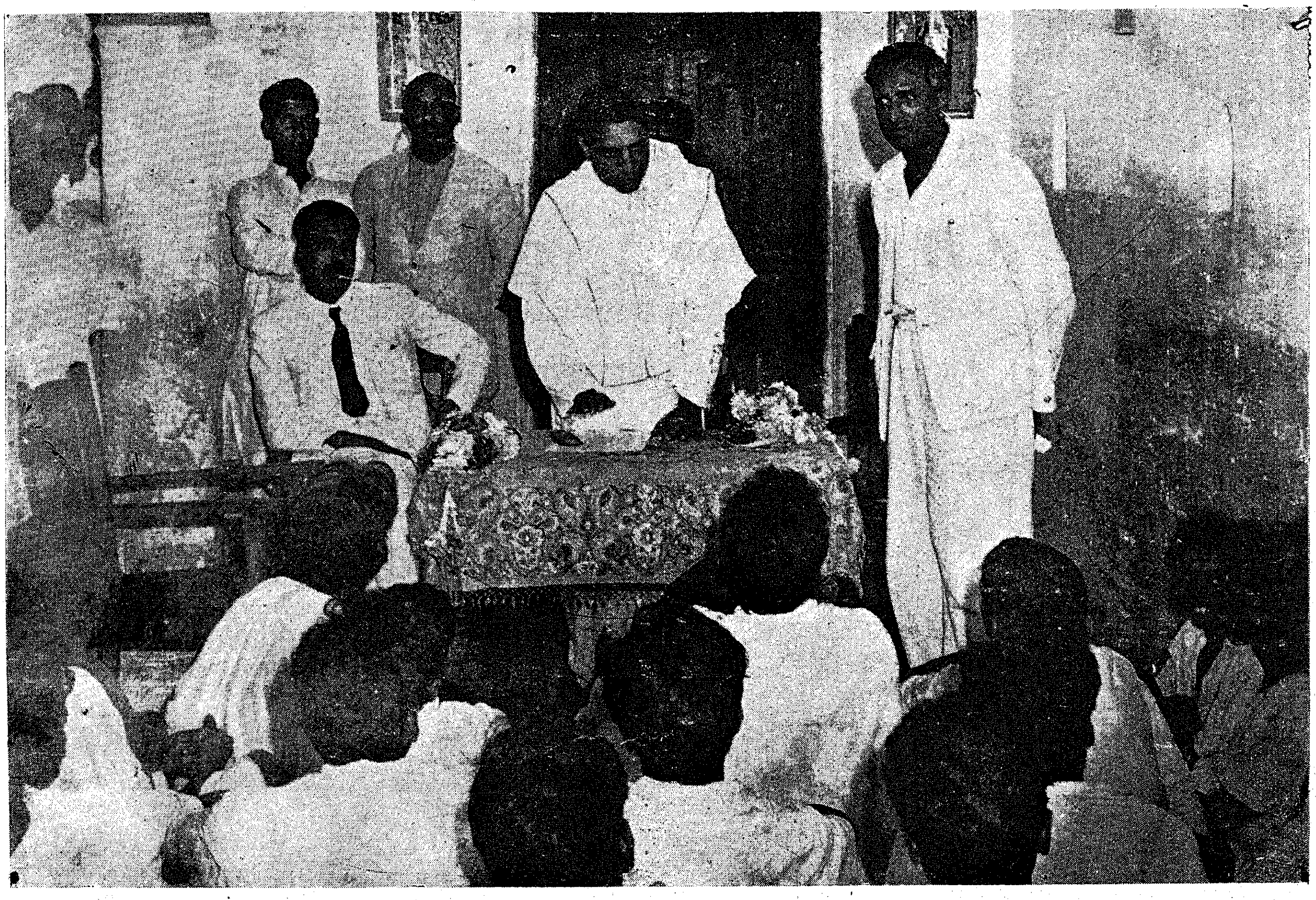
"The Government of India will soon decide priorities among these various schemes and all efforts will be made to see them through".

REMEMBER FREE INDIA

If you go with some money to the booking-office, and offer money and want a ticket, the booking clerk must feel, "I am now serving free India and must attend to this man promptly and quickly". If you go to buy a ticket and buy it and get into the train, you are getting into Free India's train and ought not occupy more space than you ought to occupy. If you are inclined—for your own self-satisfaction—to make any spot of Free India dirty remember it is Free India that you are making dirty. If you spit on the road, you are spitting on Free India.

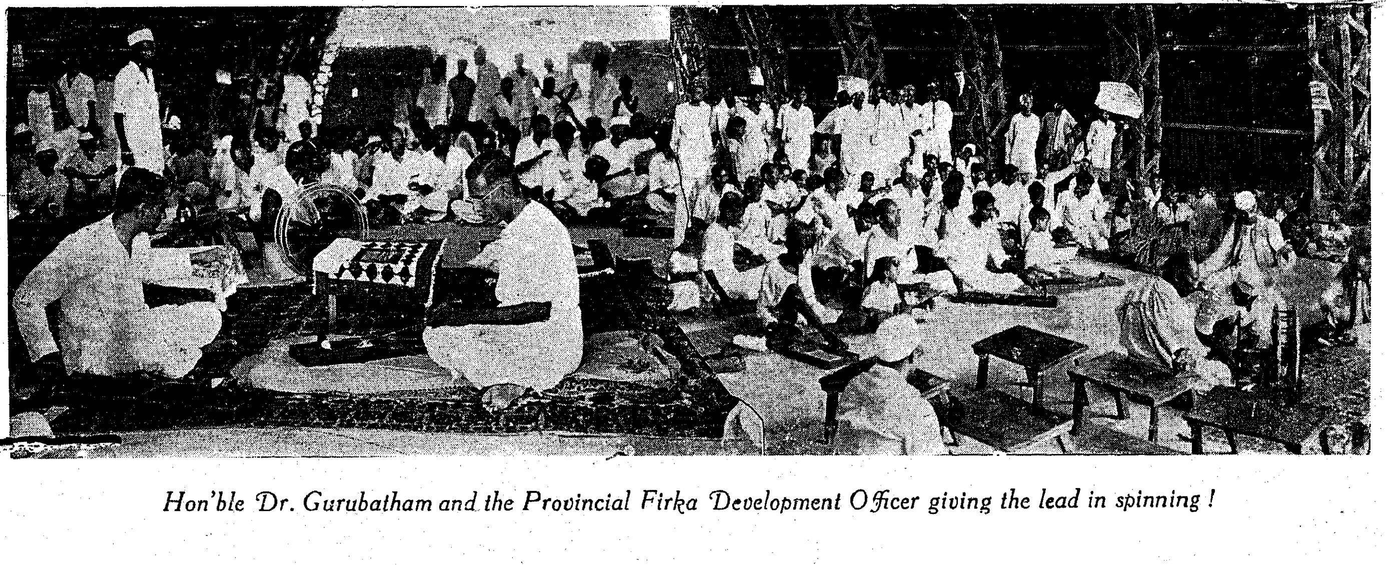
—H.E. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

NATION BUILDING PROCESS UNDER WAY



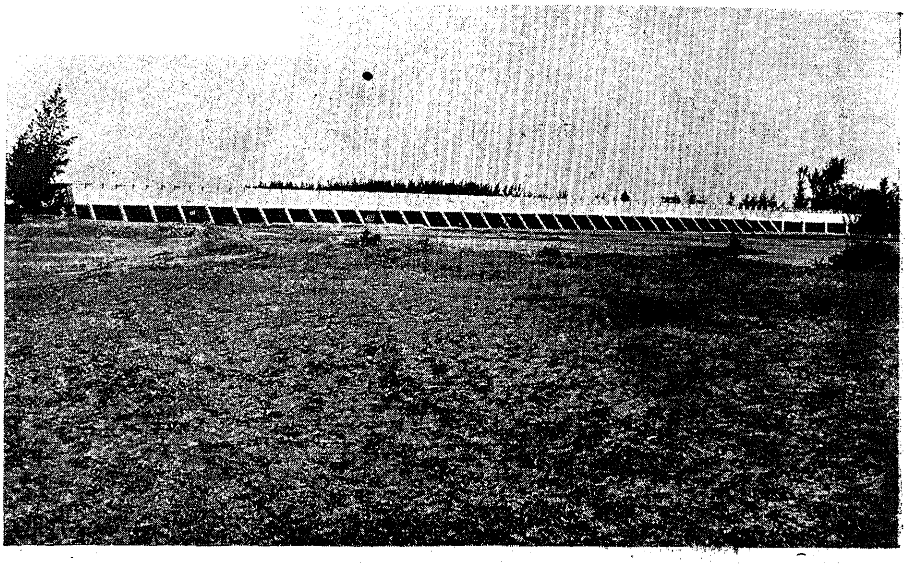
Hon'ble Minister for Local Administration inaugurated a Co-operative Milk Supply Union for Ex-tappers near Adayar

CONNEMARA PUBLIC LIBRARY
25 DEC 1948
MADRAS



Hon'ble Dr. Gurubatham and the Provincial Firka Development Officer giving the lead in spinning !

The Grand Anicut Canal in Tanjore crosses several drainage courses by syphon aqueducts. The largest of these is the one over Agniar—The picture shows the front view of the acqueduct



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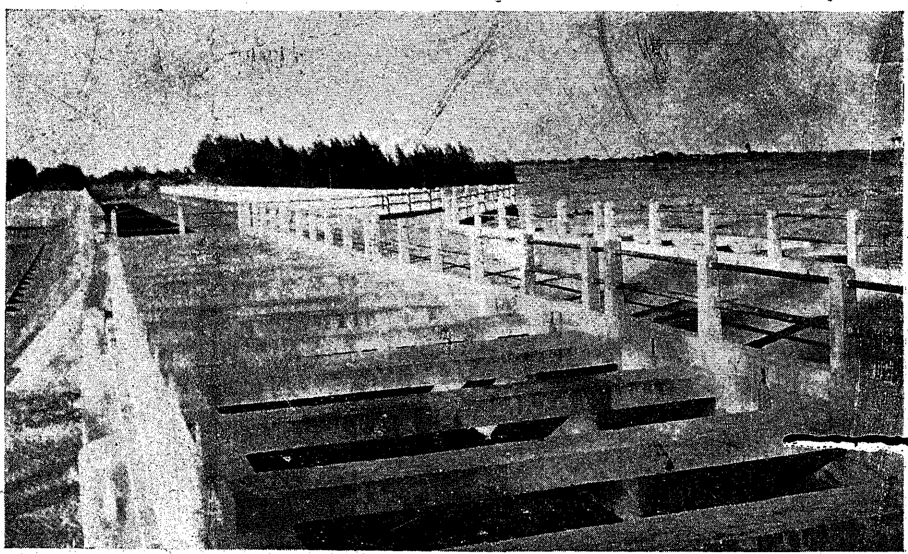
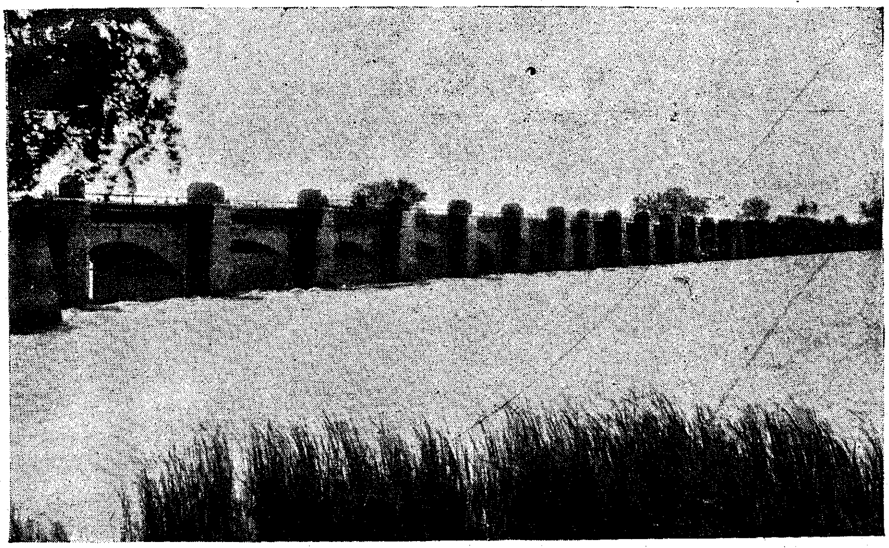
Agniar Aqueduct—Rear View

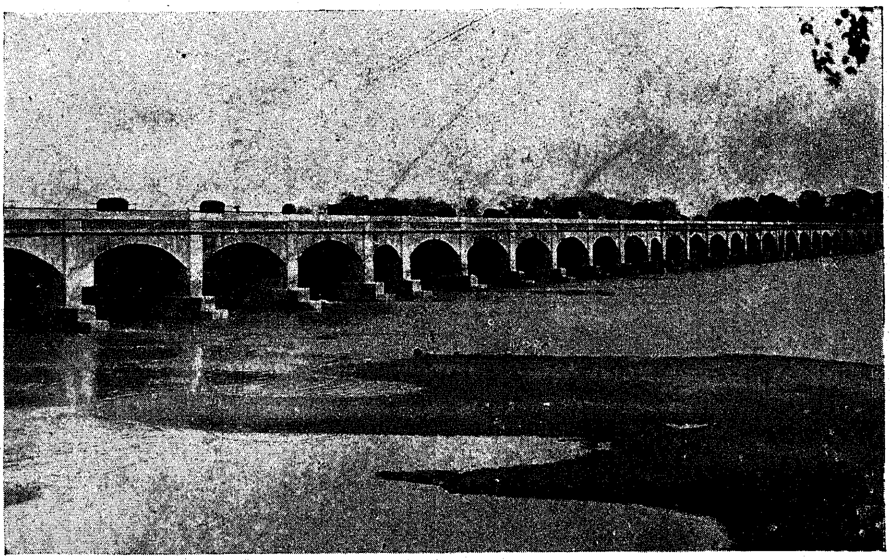
Agniar Aqueduct—End View



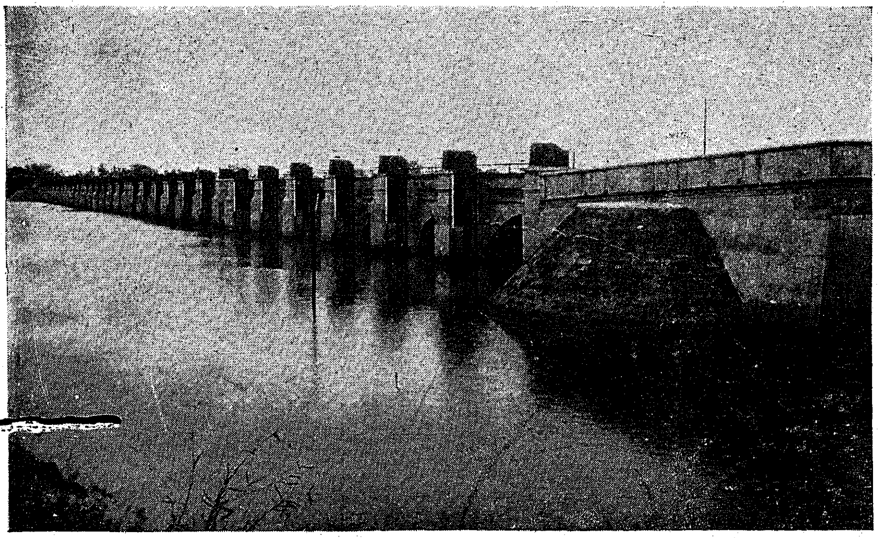
IN THE PROVINCE



Lower Anicut North Branch Front View.



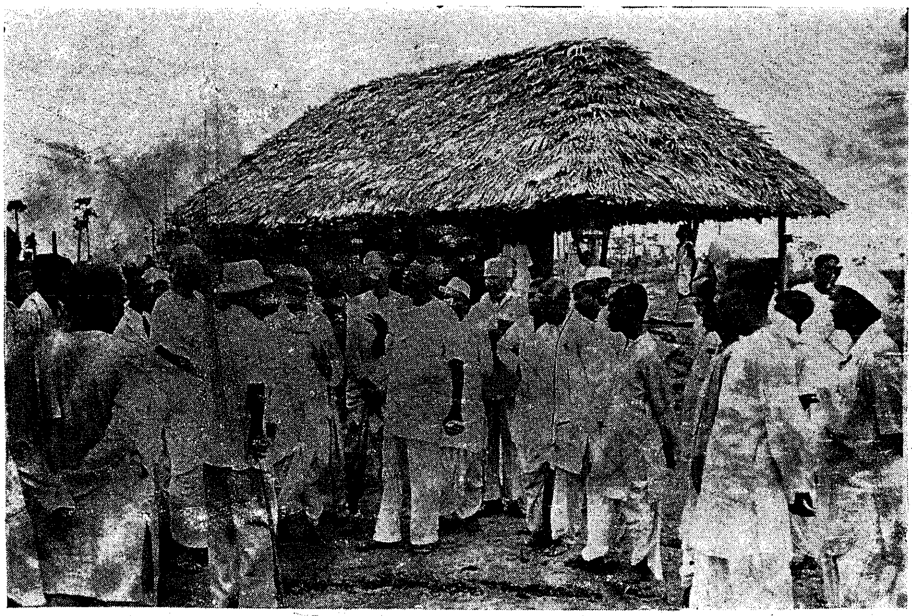
Lower Anicut North Branch Rear View.



Lower Anicut South Branch Front View.

DIVERSE RURAL ACTIVITIES

Hon'ble Dr. Gurubatham laid the Foundation stone for the Basic Education Training School in West Godavari District



Hon'ble Dr. Gurubatham making a point

This shed is in keeping with its rural surroundings

Spotlight on Land Revenue System

It is common knowledge that the process of re-moulding the Land Revenue system in this Province is well under way. In this connection Hon'ble Sri KALA VENKATA RAO recently gave a broadcast talk from the A.I.R., Madras. After discussing the main features of the ryotwari system which is in vogue at present in two-thirds of this Province the Hon'ble Minister said:

As against these advantages of the present system there have been the following main criticisms against it—

(1) The system is not progressive with reference to one's ability to pay. The big landholder and the small pattadar pay assessment at the same rate. For example a person owning one acre and a person owning one thousand acres pay at the same rate.

(2) The rates are fixed and inelastic. If prices of staple foodgrains fall below the average prices adopted for determining the assessment, there is no relief to the ryots. For example the rates are not varied and remain the same when say the price of a bag of paddy was Rs. 3 or 4 in 1932–34 or when the price of the same is Rs. 13 now.

(3) The assessment does not vary with the nature of the crops grown and people who grow commercial crops are better off than those who raise food crops.

(4) The incidence of land revenue is not uniform in different districts, as a result of the rates having been fixed at different periods with reference to the prices prevailing in those districts during the twenty non-famine years immediately preceding the year of settlement.

(5) In the ryotwari areas also the pattadar is gradually becoming an absentee landlord and the tenant-at-will or the cultivating tenant is becoming the main agriculturist. The absentee landlord (pattadar) who does not undertake the cultivation himself is taking the lion's share of the produce of the land, and the cultivating tenant who in many cases is a glorified agricultural labourer and who has very little capital, except for some credit and status enough to invite the confidence of the pattadars to lease him the land, is unable on account of his economic position to invest the required capital to improve the yield from his leased holding.

(6) The landless agricultural labourers constitute fifteen per cent of the rural population in our Presidency. Their present lot is alarming and their wages and living conditions are far from satisfactory. They are under-employed and in many cases underpaid. Their relationship to the land or the [illegible]d his lease-holding tenant is absolutely fluid. No wage, minimum or maximum is guaranteed to them.

(7) The question of revision of land revenue policy of the Government was considered by the Congress Ministry in 1937. A few months earlier, the interim Ministry appointed a committee to go into the question. It was presided over by Mr. Marjoribanks. That report was not officially published except for certain press summaries. Its main recommendations were—

(i) That the percentage increases imposed during resettlements after 1914 on account of the rise in prices should be cancelled in order to equalise the incidence of assessments in all the districts;

(ii) That the basic water-rate in the districts of East and West Godavari and Kristna and in the deltaic portion of the Guntur district should be reduced from Rs. 6–4–0 to Rs. 5 the rate in existence before the enhancement was made.

(iii) Resultant rates mentioned in items (i) and (ii) above may be treated as the basis for future revisions;

(iv) Such revision should, however, be made only by a vote of the legislature at the time of the Budget Estimate with reference to the financial needs of the Province;

(v) Changes should not exceed 1 anna in the rupee at a time and that the rates should not be higher than the basic rates by more than one anna in the rupee at any time during the first ten-year period after the introduction of the scheme, by more than 2 annas in the rupee at any time during the second ten-year period and so on;

(vi) Legislation should be undertaken for making the official registration, after careful verification, and notification, presumptive proof of title;

(vii) Provision should be made for the systematic revision of the 'A' register of the village and for the up-to-date registry of holdings. But before final decision was taken on several questions the first Congress Ministry went out of office; Government have again taken up the question of land revenue reform, and the first step that has been taken in that direction is the abolition of estates so that there might be a uniform ryotwari system in our Province. It is time that the next step is taken to meet the above and other criticisms regarding the prevailing ryotwari system. The first attempt in this direction will be the codification of the land revenue law. The next question to be tackled will be the rationalization of the system of land revenue taxation itself, which is at present, as I already said, is on a regressive basis. The main difficulty will be as to whether the progressive tax should be related to the holding or to the agricultural income or to the sale of the agricultural produce. The relative merits have to be examined with great caution and the conclusions reached should be legislated upon at any early date. In the face of the present need for edible cereals it may be necessary to control the growth and spread of commercial crops.

The question of giving greater share in the margin of profit to the cultivating tenant has to be considered and the relationship of the cultivating tenant and the non-cultivating landlord must be statutorily defined. Certain proposals that will naturally emerge out of the proposed immediate reform of amending the Malabar Tenancy System will have to be spread to the remaining areas in the Presidency.

(Continued on page 23)

Self-helf in Village Uplift Work

Speaking recently on the occasion of the opening of the Andhra Grama Seva Vidyalayam in West Godavari District, Hon'ble Dr. S GURUBATHAM stressed the importance of self-help in village uplift work Referring to this aspect of the subject, he said:

If a few men come together, they can do many things. I recently saw a well being dug at a cost of Rs. 3,000. The labourers who dig the well are villagers. It was given to a contractor. If the villagers for whom the well has to be dug so wished they could have done it themslèves. In some villages if we could give Rs. 500, the villagers would complete the well. This sum is for the construction of the well. The labour will be done by the villagers. There is another factor. If the villagers themselves dig the well, they will take much care of the work. When their females or children go to the well and draw water, they feel happy that it was their own well. This satisfaction will not be present if a contractor had dug the well. The same is the case with roads. If villagers form the roads, acquisition will not be necessary. If acquisition is to be made, a notification has to be published and objections invited and answered if received. The land value has to be fixed and there lies an appeal against this. This will take nearly two years. If villagers join together to make their own road, there is so much of co-operation, of fellowship and of joy also. We want to solve these problems along this way of co-operation. We want to solve the agriculture and housing problems along these lines. To-day, the ryot has not got implements or seeds or a pair of cattle to carry on agriculture. A middleman comes forward to offer a loan to the agriculturist at an usurious rate of interest. At the harvest time, he purchases the produce at a low rate. If the agriculturist is indebted to the middleman, the latter can dictate the price of the produce. The lazy man thus gets a prize at the cost of the hard-working man. We want to save the worker from this bondage through this Firka Development Department. I can tell you many more things. The trainees here will be given a training for three months. We have taken two from each firka. We want to run this training centre permanently. As we train people here, they will go forth into the villages. This is a hard task. Sri Aryanayakam told me "We have waited for 150 years and let us wait for some time more. It will take time but we are bound to succeed. If criticism comes, we shall answer it." I want workers to be firm in their work. Be sure of your purpose. If we are in the right direction, we are bound to succeed. Very often in Gandhiji's life, we have seen how this little man was fighting for his country without any arms. Great countries like America and England were trying to achieve their ends in their own way. But our ways looked so small. Others were laughing at this little man's efforts. But he was the only man who went forward.

Whenever I went to him, I came back with the impression that he would lead the whole world. After he has passed away, we now realize how great his work was. Our work now seems to me very small beside mighty schemes. But like the mighty atom, we have great potentialities. Let us go forward with truth in our mind. We may achieve results during our lifetime. Sometimes, the next generation will have them. Whether results come or not we shall go forward. I believe that this Firka Development scheme will succeed. This training centre is a great step forward. . . . We have to change the outlook of the country, the people and the officers. We have taken nearly three years to lay this foundation. We have a training centre at Kallupatti in the South. This centre is starting now. I was asked in Malabar that there should be a combined centre for Kerala. I am just beginning to think that we shall have a centre like this for Kerala. But this should be run with the co-operation of the Governments of Cochin and Travancore also. That centre may start by the time this closes. I would request all those interested in moral development to come to these centres. These should be laboratories where this work shall be tried. With the blessings of God, let us start this to-day. This will go forward with your co-operation. I should specially thank Sri Anjaneyulu for the gift of h s lands here. When he came to Madras last, he was anxious that this place should be selected for the Training centre. As far as I see, he has no axes to grind. I find he is anxious to serve. He is not a politician. It is by such voluntary gifts that this moral work will succeed. I think all those who have co-operated had worked hard to organize this centre. In God's name I declare it open."

(*Continued from page* 10)

as against 706 in the previous year. Four hundred and eighty revision petitions were filed in mufassal Session Courts and 3 cases were taken up *suo motu* by the Sessions Judges. In the High Court, 1,351 revision petitions were disposed of during the year and 522 petitions were pending at the end of the year.

Crimes and Fines.—The number of offences under the Indian Penal Code reported in the year was 134,914, as against 128,334 in 1946. The total amount of fines imposed was Rupees 54,76,489, as against Rs. 51,62,311 in 1946, out of which a sum of Rupees 47,99,286 was realized, as against Rs. 41,45,972 in the previous year. Compensation to the tune of Rupees 58,754 was paid to complainants under section 545, Code of Criminal Procedure.

Juvenile Convictions.—The number of juveniles convicted was 4,576, of whom 4,139 were boys and 437 were girls. Five hundred and thirty-one juveniles were ordered to [redacted] in certified schools, 2,045 were discharged, after admonition, and 1,448 were handed over to their parents or guardians.

PRESS NOTES, RELEASES, ETC.—A DIGEST

Revenue and Expenditure on Revenue Account

According to the budget estimate for 1948–49, the revenue to the Government of Madras is Rs. 5,594·31 lakhs. Revenue accounts to the end of July 1948 stands at Rs. 1,379·15 lakhs, as against Rs. 1,327·91 lakhs for the corresponding period in 1947. The budget estimate for 1948–49 in respect of expenditure on revenue account is Rs. 5,593·60 lakhs. Expenditure on revenue account to the end of July 1948 totals Rs. 1,201·80 lakhs, as against Rs. 1,206·76 lakhs for the corresponding period of the previous financial year.

Revenue.—The total revenue realized to the end of July 1948 shows an increase of Rs. 51·24 lakhs as compared with the revenue for the corresponding period of 1947–48. The increase is the net effect of increases totalling Rs. 271·37 lakhs and decreases totalling Rs. 220·13 lakhs. The main increases occurred in respect of items such as Stamps, Registration, Interest, Police, Education, Public Health, Receipts from electricity schemes, etc., etc. The decreases are with reference to items such as Land Revenue, Provincial Excise, Forest, Irrigation, Industries and Supplies, etc.

Expenditure.—The total expenditure on revenue account to the end of July 1948 shows a decrease of Rs. 4·96 lakhs as compared with the expenditure for the corresponding period of the previous financial year. The decrease is the net effect of decreases totalling Rs. 153·50 lakhs and increases amounting to Rs. 148·54 lakhs. The decreases are with reference to items such as Forest, General Administration, Superannuation Allowances and Pensions, Extraordinary Charges, Civil Defence, etc. The increases occurred under heads such as Land Revenue, Registration, Construction of Irrigation Works, Administration of Justice, Police, Education, Public Health, etc.

[November 19]

Food Bonus Coupons

In their Press Note No. 220, dated 28th September 1948, the Government announced that 31st December 1948 has been fixed as the last date for redeeming the food bonus coupons by the producers who have delivered paddy or rice under the Bonus scheme of 1947. The coupon holders are once again informed that it is open to them to exchange their coupons either for manures subject to availability of stocks or for cash at their option. As the Government are anxious to wind up the scheme as early as possible, they wish to emphasize that the time-limit of 31st December 1948 already fixed will be strictly adhered to and not extended on any account. The coupon holders are therefore again advised to apply for the redemption of their coupons as early as possible and in any case before 31st December 1948. They are informed that applications received after 31st December 1948 are liable to be rejected summarily.

[November 22]

Department of Industries and Commerce

In line with the great awakening that has come about all over the country now for the economic upliftment of our people, various exhibitions to show the possibilities of the country and the scope for expansion of large, medium and cottage industries, are being held everywhere. Consequently, there have been of late too many calls on the Department of Industries and Commerce to participate in the exhibitions. While it cannot be denied that all exhibitions big and small are of real value, and the department will be glad to participate in them, the authorities sponsoring exhibitions will no doubt realize that it will not be possible for this department to participate in each and every exhibition. For the information and guidance of the organizers of exhibitions the following principles, which will generally govern this department's participation, are indicated:

(i) Participation will be restricted

(*a*) to exhibitions which are likely to run for not less than four days in the mufassal towns and ten days in Madras City and where more than 5,000 visitors are expected to attend;

(*b*) to exhibitions in villages and smaller towns expected to run for not less than four days.

(ii) At least a month's notice should be given to enable the department to collect exhibits and make other arrangements to participate in the exhibition.

(iii) The department should be allowed freedom of display and sale of its products at the exhibitions without any restriction.

The department is considering the feasibility of having a well-designed break-up stall of its own and a complete set of exhibits which can be moved from exhibition to exhibition.

Rice Mills Licensing Order

The Government of Madras have directed that with effect from 20th November 1948, the Madras Rice Mills Licensing Order, 1947, be applied to the following districts :—

South Kanara, Tirunelveli, Tiruchirappalli, South Arcot, Madura, Anantapur, Cuddapah, Kurnool, Bellary, North Arcot, Chingleput, Coimbatore, Vizagapatam, Ramnad, Chittoor and Salem.

[November 26]

New Well Subsidy Scheme

Under the existing orders, wells sanctioned under the New Well Subsidy Scheme, 1947–48, should have been completed by the 30th of September 1948 in order that they may be eligible for subsidy under the scheme. It has, however, been brought to the notice of the Government that most of the wells could not be completed within the prescribed time due to a variety of reasons and numerous requests for extension of time have been received. The Government have accordingly issued orders extending the time for completion of works under the New Well Subsidy Scheme, 1947–48, till the 30th June 1949. The extension of time granted is subject to the condition that the ryots who have been given subsidy loans under the scheme will make earnest attempts from now on to commence the work and that appreciable progress will be shown by the end of January 1949. The Government have issued instructions that in any case in which no progress

in the sinking of the well is shown by the end of January 1949, the loan should, without waiting for any further instructions, be summarily recovered.

[December 1]

Building Materials

In view of the acute shortage of building materials, such as iron and steel and cement, and to conserve these materials for essential structures, the above materials will not be released in future for elaborate and luxurious types of constructions and non-essential structures, such as cinemas, dance-halls, studios, amusement concerns, etc.

[December 1]

District Food Committees to be Revived

In view of the decision to re-introduce controls over foodgrains and other essential foodstuffs, the Government have decided to reconstitute the District Food Committees in all the districts of the Province and to revive the Rationing Advisory Committees, wherever statutory rationing is being re-introduced.

[November 27]

Refrigeration Industry

The Government of Madras have constituted an Advisory Committee for the planned development of Refrigeration Industry. This Committee, which has been constituted in accordance with the recommendation of the Refrigeration Development Conference convened by the Government of India in July 1948, will receive complaints about unfair rent charged by owners of cold storage, enquire into them and make recommendations to Government as to what should be the fair rent.

The personnel of the Committee will be as follows :—

(1) The Joint Director of Agriculture—*Chairman* ;

(2) a representative of the cold storage owners in the Province ;

(3) a representative of the users of the cold storage ;

(4) a representative of the Department of Industries ;

(5) a representative of the Department of Co-operation ; and

(6) the Fruit Specialist, Madras—(*ex-officio Secretary*).

[November 27]

Government Servants and the Public

Government have been receiving complaints from the public that the attitude of some of the Government servants towards them is not in keeping with the changed conditions in the administration of the country under a Popular Government and they have reason to believe that, with a few good exceptions, Government servants have not yet realized that their conduct and personal relations with the public should be so regulated as to reflect their duty to " serve " in the best interest of the people and the country. While indifference or discourtesy towards the members of the public coming to them for relief or guidance is positively bad, Government servants should do much to bring home to the public that the old bureaucratic order of things has gone, never to return, and that there is nothing now separating the rulers from the ruled. Instructions have since been issued to Government servants to the effect that this new spirit of the times should be apparent on all occasions when officials come into personal contact with the people as well as in all official communications.

[December 2]

Recruitment through Employment Exchanges

The Government have issued the following instructions in respect of the question as to how far the services of the Employment offices can be utilized for filling vacancies in provincial and subordinate services.

As regards posts in provincial services (gazetted posts) and posts in subordinate services, which should be filled in consultation with the Madras Public Service Commission or on the results of a competitive examination, the Madras Public Service Commission and other selecting authorities will send copies of all advertisements inviting applications issued by them to the Employment exchanges and offices. Copies of all such advertisements should be sent sufficiently in advance to the Employment Officers concerned. The Employment Officers can bring these advertisements to the notice of prospective applicants on their registers whether ex-servicemen, discharged temporary employees or others. The Government consider that this procedure may continue without any change.

Regarding other posts in subordinate services, whenever vacancies, which are no longer reserved for war service candidates and which can be filled otherwise than in consultation with the Commission or on the results of a competitive examination, arise, the appointing authorities should call upon the District Employment office or the Sub-Regional Employment Exchange concerned to supply lists of ex-employees of the Provincial Government and of war service candidates, if available, who possess the prescribed qualifications. When a sufficient number of suitable and qualified ex-employees or ex-servicemen is not available, the Employment office or exchange concerned should submit, for the consideration of appointing authorities, names of suitable and qualified civilians on its rolls. The Government direct that selection should be ordinarily restricted to persons included in these lists and that the following order of preference should be observed :—(*a*) War service candidates and ex-employees of the Provincial Government put together and (*b*) others. Outsiders should be appointed only if the Employment office or exchange concerned is not able to furnish lists of suitable and qualified persons registered with it.

The appointing authorities should not call for lists of candidates from the Employment offices much in advance of the occurrence of vacancies. If, for any reason, they are unable to take action on the lists within a month, they should send back the lists to the Employment offices concerned for making them up to date.

[December 2]

NON-VIOLENCE

Non-violence is complete innocence. It is the law of our species as violence is the law of the brute. The spirit lies dormant in the brute and he knows no law but that of physical might. The dignity of man requires obed[illegible] a higher law—to the strength of the spirit.

—MAHATMA GANDHI.

MEN AND IDEAS

Publicity in Free India

Bihar Minister on its Role

" Fairs and religious gatherings were very significant and had immense utility in the ancient times when transport facilities were not so easily available in the country. We should try to revive and perpetuate our age-honoured social cultural and religious institutions and traditions in order to ensure a healthy growth of the nation, of course with such modifications as are warranted by the spirit of the age. Such occasions should now be adequately utilized by our publicity workers for imparting truthful knowledge and general education to the masses and thereby enabling them to exercise their rights and enjoy their privileges properly, as citizens of an independent and democractic state."

The above observations were made by Acharya Badrinath Varma, Education and Information Minister, Bihar, in course of his speech while inaugurating a Publicity Stall recently.

Utilities of Fairs

Acharya Verma said: " For centuries past lakhs of men and women hailing from different distant parts of the country have been assembling year after year, on this auspicious date of Kartik Purnima, at this sacred place of pilgrimage—Hariharkshetra—to wash away their sins by taking bath in the holy water at the confluence of the Narayani and the Ganga and embarking upon a novel plan of life during the ensuing year, deriving inspiration from the highly instructive teachings and preaching of the saints, sages and seers that visited the place in thousands for the purpose. But now, with the change of age our entire mechanism of life has undergone a distinct change. Saints and sages have now become conspicuous by their very absence in these fairs and religious assemblages. People gather now for various kinds of entertainments and recreative purposes alone. The educative aspect of the affair should not be lost sight of. Our publicity men should now play the role of our ancient saints and sages in these fairs and educate the masses properly in various branches of general knowledge which is necessary for providing them with adequate facilities of a better and fuller life."

Publicity in Free India

Proceeding, the speaker said that since the attainment of freedom by the country the entire background of our life had been completely changed. In a free democratic State the responsibilities of the publicity workers had considerably increased. They formed a link between the State and the people. The messages of the Government addressed to the people and reports of the activities of the former were duly conveyed to the latter, while the grievances and wishes of the latter regarding the administration were brought to the notice of the former through the agency of the Publicity Department. Now that the affairs of the State were administered by the elected representatives of the people themselves, it was essential that there should be perfect goodwill and unstinted co-operation between the rulers and the ruled. This could be easily secured by publicity workers.

Publicity and Democracy

" True democracy could not function in any country unless the people had full knowledge about the activities of the State for the dissemination of which the Publicity Department of Government was the most appropriate vehicle." With these remarks the Hon'ble Minister appealed to the public of the province not to treat this useful Department as a mere machinery of the Government but to deem it as their own organization intended to furnish full information about everything that was necessary for them and to further their real interests in every possible way.

Publicity booth in the Mela

Tens of thousands of people are seen milling round the vast Publicity booth in the Sonepore Mela this year, which is the main source of attraction for the literate and illiterate persons alike. The posters, leaflets, pamphlets and brochures, handed out to the crowd, are eagerly scanned by villagers proud of their 3 R's and listened to with interest by their less fortunate brothers, who cannot read for themselves. The Publicity booth which is in charge of Shri Ramdhari Sinha ' Dinkar,' Deputy Director of Publicity and is neatly laid out and tastefully decorated includes exhibits of interest pertaining to different departments of the Provincial and Central Governments.

There is an Information Bureau which supplies information on all points from the latest Governmental projects to the timings of the next Up or Down train. A Reading Room fully equipped with the dailies, weeklies, fortnightlies and monthlies of the province and country, is seen working in full swing.

MONEY IS CHEAP

Do not be fond of money for that will lead you to dangers... You know now how cheap money has become. In the old days we had to give six seers of rice to buy one rupee. Now if you throw 1½ seers you can get a rupee. Money has become cheap. What we should now collect is goods, not money. If you had given me 500 sacks of grass I would have considered it more valuable—Whatever we do, we should add to the wealth of the country; if I get money I make another poor to that extent, and there is no fresh wealth. Therefore, people who make money do not add to the wealth of the country. People who cut grass or sow paddy do work for the country.

—H.E. Sri C. RAJAGOPALACHARI.

How to form a Co-operative Society

You are a consumer, that is a person who requires food to eat and clothes to wear, not to speak of all the other goods which each individual desires to buy. Perhaps you are also a producer, that is a person who weaves cloth, makes baskets, grows paddy or work at any of the numerous cottage industries or agricultural pursuits. Whether you are a consumer or a producer, you can do it more profitably through a co-operative society.

In his pamphlet entitled "Constructive Co-operation" Sj. Bimala Prasad Chaliha, M.L.A., Parliamentary Secretary to the Government of Assam for Co-operative Societies, says :—

"A co-operative society is an organization of individuals who bind themselves to conform to certain by-laws and rules of procedure for the purpose of producing things more cheaply, marketing things more profitably or buying things at the lowest possible price.

Imagine ten spinners of cotton each of whom goes to the town once a month to buy cotton. Each of them has to pay separately for the transport of cotton to their village. If they join together, they can lessen the cost of transport, since the quantity for all ten of them can conveniently fill one cart. Moreover, by buying this larger quantity at one time they will get it more cheaply. It is, therefore, more profitable for them to form a co-operative society for this purpose.

Imagine a village of cultivators who have contributed share money to their co-operative society. When they want to sell their paddy crop, instead of selling at a cheap price to a merchant, they can sell at a reasonable price to their co-operative. The Co-operative will sell their paddy at the best price at the most profitable time and will then pay back to those cultivators their share of this extra profit in the shape of patronage dividend.

Imagine individuals walking all the way to the town to buy cloth. What a waste of time and energy when one man could bring all the cloth from the town to a co-operative store. The co-operative store will be able to buy the cloth in bulk at a cheaper rate and the benefit of this cheaper rate will be handed on to the members of the co-operative when they buy their individual requirements.

Think of the large sums of money paid by cultivators to money-lenders as interest on loans. If these cultivators can get credit from a co-operative on the understanding that they will sell their surplus paddy when harvested to the co-operative they will have to pay only a very small amount of interest on such loans.

These are only a few of the ways in which co-operative societies are able to help individuals to improve their economic positions.

Different Classes and Types of Co-operative Society

There are four main classes of co-operative society and under each class there are a number of different types—

(1) *Primary co-operative societies* are small groups of individuals who unite to gain corporate strength in their particular vocation, such as cultivating the fields, weaving cloth, rearing silk worms, making patterns, catching fish, etc.

(2) *Trading co-operatives* are larger groups of individuals who unite in order to buy the necessities of life more cheaply or to market their cottage industries and agricultural products at the best possible price or to obtain cheap loans or cheap insurance.

Primary co-operative societies may be affiliated to a trading co-operative to enjoy the same advantages as an individual member.

(3) *Central Trading Co-operatives are* formed by the affiliation of trading co-operatives. Their object is to buy wholesale the goods required by the trading co-operatives and to market the surplus products of the latter.

(4) *Provincial Co-operative Associations* are large federating co-operative societies. At present there are two such associations : (*a*) "The Assam Co-operative Cottage Industries Association, Limited," which markets the cottage industries handicraft products of its member and provides them with materials, new ideas, training facilities and (*b*) "The Assam Co-operative Apex Bank, Limited," which has an authorized capital of three and a half crores of rupees and which finances the whole of the co-operative movement. Soon it is hoped to start a Provincial Wholesale Co-operative Association for the supply and marketing of all commodities other than handicrafts and a Provincial Co-operative Insurance Association to undertake all forms of insurance. The bulk of the membership of all these associations will be composed of affiliated co-operative societies.

Advantages of Joining a Co-operative Society

Most of the advantages of a co-operative society are specific for the type of society in question. For example, if a group of silk rearers decide to form a co-operative mulberry plantation, they pool their money, buy a piece of land and plant it with mulberry cuttings. It will be much cheaper and more convenient to tend, manure and protect a single large plantation of this sort than for each man to have his separate small plantation.

But we can state several general advantages of co-operative method which are common to most co-operative societies—

(1) *Patronage dividend* is the great co-operative device which ensures that members obtain commodities at the cheapest price and sell at the best price. Take as an example the Assam Co-operative Cottage Industries Association, which sells handicrafts to its members. If the association makes a profit it is equivalent to its having sold its handicrafts at too high a price. So the profits are redistributed in the shape of patronage dividend to the members in proportion to the value of the handicrafts bought in the course of the year by each member. If one member spent Rs. 200 he will receive double the patronage dividend of a member who only spent Rs. 100. This ensures that the products are bought at the lowest price, since the profit, which usually goes to the shop-keeper, is redistributed to the consumer. As another example, take a Trading Co-operative, which has been buying paddy from its members. If it has a profit from resale of the paddy, it means, in effect, that it gave its members too little for their paddy and so it will redistribute that profit to the paddy growers in the form of patronage dividends.

"National Character our Best Defence"

"No democratic state ~~can endure~~ unless people are aware of their responsibilities and know how to discharge them in the best interest of society.

(*Continued on page* 21)

AGRICULTURAL NOTES

Piricularia Resistant Paddy Strains

As the shortage in rice production in this country is chronic, it should be the aim of every individual interested in the agriculture of the country to try to augment production. One way of augmenting the total output is by increasing the acre yields on the one hand, and bringing fresh areas under plough cultivation on the other. Yet another way of looking at the problem is to reduce wastage at the several stages of the crop. It is proposed to talk about the prevention of waste of rice crop by the blast disease caused by the fungus—*Piricularia Oryzae.* This deadly disease attacks the paddy crop in all stages of its growth. It produces characteristic brown spots on the leaves which to the layman may appear as some minor effects of less dangerous diseases like *Helminthosporium.* In the heading stage it attacks the top node of the stem and the neck—the basal joint of the earhead, where it appears as blackish rings and then the earhead itself, leaving the whole head of grains to wither into chaff.

This disease is known to occur in Bengal, Bihar, Central Provinces and other rice-growing countries—Italy, Russia, China, Japan, U.S.A. In South India, the disease was first recorded in 1916 from Tanjore, and it caused serious damage to the rice crop in that season. In some years and in some varieties the losses go up to 50 per cent depending upon the weather conditions at the heading stage. In certain tracts where the varieties grown are very much 'susceptible', the disease assumes an epidemic form periodically and huge losses occur.

Investigations on this disease by several workers in Madras have disclosed that the nature of the outbreak, its close alliance with the prevailing weather conditions and the rapidity of the spread of the disease do not admit of the usual preventive and curative measures feasible with ordinary crop diseases.

A number of studies instituted at the Agricultural Research Institute, Coimbatore, revealed a wide range of susceptibility of rice varieties to the disease; certain morphological characters like the size and inclination of flag leaf, degree of emergence of the ear and density of earhead were found to have some relationship to the incidence of the disease. It was also plain that the disease varied in intensity according to the environment.

The fact that certain varieties are resistant to the disease does not solve the problem, as the same varieties cannot be grown all over the country because of the obvious differences in the requirements and conditions of growing of rice obtainable in different regions. Again the prejudices of the cultivator die hard. His choice of variety is often guided by some factor which may be known to be even uneconomic such as shape of grain, colour of husk, etc.

Hence the approach to the problem resolves itself into one of building up rice strains resembling the popular varieties, with the chief character of disease-resistance added on to these by hybridisation which is now recognized as the most successful method.

From the studies made, it was found that two of the rice strains G.E.B. 24 (Kichili Samba) and Co. 4 (Gobi Anaikomban) evolved by the Paddy Specialist were found to be resistant to blast. Crosses were effected as early as 1926 between these strains and Korangu Samba (Adt. 10) which was very susceptible to the disease but which was very popular by virtue of its very high yield in disease-free years. The cross G.E.B. 24 × Korangu Samba (Adt. 10) was the first to be intensively studied both at Coimbatore and Aduturai for over eight years. Two strains Co. 15 and Co. 16 were released for distribution from 1939 onwards. These are popular in the Madura district. However they did not make headway in the Tanjore and Nellore districts where the disease is rather severe, because of their poor quality and chaffiness compared to Nellore Samba or Molagolukulu. It was also found later that G.E.B. 24 was not as resistant as Co. 4.

The other cross (Co. 4 × Korangu Samba) which was till then kept going on was intensively studied from 1934 onwards to isolate strains with all the good features of the popular strains and the additional character of blast resistance. Two cultures 3912 and 3840 were finally fixed and these are released as *Co. 25 piricularia resistant sirumani* and Co. 26 *piricularia resistant molagolukulu* after making thorough tests as to their resistance to blast and higher yield as compared to Nellore Samba and Korangu Samba in the districts of Tanjore, Tiruchirappalli, Madura and South Arcot.

In Nellore district where some of the best quality rices like 'Nellore Samba' or Molagolukulu and Pishnam are grown, the losses from blast are very heavy. It is reported that the high quality of Pishnam type has become almost extinct because of the very severe infection of the variety by blast. The Molagolukulu variety introduced later is also susceptible to this fell disease. Work was started in 1932 at Buchireddipalem in Nellore district on this variety which is grown on more than 4 lakhs of acres, including Ongole in Guntur, Nellore, Chittoor and Cuddapah districts. By adopting pure line selection method in the commercial samples of the variety and field tests in different parts of the district, it was possible to isolate 2 strains BCP. 1 *Sanna Molagolukulu* and BCP. 2 *Potti Molagolukulu* which are now in very great demand from the districts of Nellore, Cuddapah and Chittoor. These blast resistant strains have already been multiplied by the cultivators themselves from the seed they got from the trial plots.

Now, something more about the performance of the blast resistant strains is worth mentioning. These strains are suitable to places where the harvest is done towards the end of January and beginning of February. In addition to possessing the very useful disease resistant character, the strains yield 10 to 15 per cent more than the local variety in disease-free years, while in disease-affected seasons, their yields are considerably higher than the local varieties. It has also been found that the quality of the rice of the strains is good and the percentage of rice to paddy is also as good as the local. The chemical analysis of the strains have also shown that they are in no way inferior to the local variety from the nutrition point of view. Those who wish to grow these strains are therefore requested to communicate their requirements to the Agricultural Demonstrators nearest to them. The spread of the strains is being speeded up by growing in this season more than two thousand acres under these strains in seed farms in the districts.

It has come to light in recent years that some of the very popular strains evolved by the paddy section and varieties grown in the important rice tracts of the Presidency especially under the intensive manuring that is now being taken up, are showing symptoms of susceptibility to blast, the degree of infection varying with the local and climatic factors. For example, Co. 13—a very popular short duration strain—is very badly affected by blast and other *kar* (short duration) strains do also suffer to some extent. BAM. 3 Bayyahunda, a popular medium duration strain of the Vizagapatam district, is being infected in some years. This susceptibility of some of the popular rice strain causes much anxiety to the breeder and is a potential source of loss to the cultivator. Unlike in some other diseases, as already mentioned, remedial measures are not available to combat the disease except to some extent the treatment of the nursery when the nursery is known to be affected. The only final solution to the problem would be to evolve types of varying durations suitable to the several tracts of the Presidency, and which more or less also resemble the popular strains with added disease resistance in them. This will be achieved through artificial crossing of the various strains with a resistant strain and an elaborate testing of the cross materials in the field and the laboratory for their resistance to blast.

The paddy section has already made some crosses between the blast resistant Co. 4 strain and other strains of different durations and a large stock of useful material has been secured. It will be thoroughly tested and it is hoped that in the years to come blast resistant strains will be largely available to suit different tracts and climatic conditions.

It is sometimes found that certain strains which were found to be resistant at one place are found susceptible when grown in another locality. This may in part be due to different environmental conditions, soil and atmosphere and there is also the possibility of existence of different localities where the disease is more or less common.

Obviously, disease is the result of the interaction of the two separate organisms, the host and the parasite, the climatic and environmental factors, nevertheless playing an important role. Thus any study on this aspect of disease resistance should aim at an intimate knowledge of the life history of both these organisms. A thorough investigation of this problem therefore necessitates attack of the problem from many angles where the crop Breeder, the Pathologist and probably the Chemist have to work together. These investigations are being undertaken by the staff at the Central Agricultural Research Institute, Coimbatore. It is fervently hoped that they will be successful in due time.

Soil Erosion

How is Soil Made?

Soil is made of two things, rocks and plant remains. It takes thousands of years of rain and sun to break down the rocks into small fragments and these are softened to powder by the chemical action of plant roots and of tiny animals living in the soil. The top few inches are generally the richest because they are full of rotted plant remains. Lower down there is less vegetable matter and the raw stones are not broken down. So it is very important to save and protect the top layer of richer soil and prevent it from being washed away.

Now will you please think what happens to a rain drop when it falls on leaf or grass. You get a clear spray; if it falls on bare earth, the spray is muddy. This muddy spray forms a skin on the surface, which plugs up the spaces between the grains of soil. Water can no longer drain downwards through the soil because all the entrances are clogged up. So all the rain runs straight off the surface into the nearest stream. On the other hand if there are any plants growing, their roots made the soil more porous, so that water soaks in more readily. The more plants there are growing, the better does the soil act as a huge sponge which soaks up and holds back part of the rainfall, thus delaying the run off and preventing sudden and violent floods.

How is the Soil Lost?

When the rain drops fall on bare ground each splash loosens some soil and the spray at once becomes muddy. Each tiny stream of muddy water is able to cut away the surface it flows over so that the whole surface is rubbed off as if by sand paper, and sheet washing occurs. On ploughed fields this is not noticed because at each ploughing these tiny channels are all flattened out. On grazing land on the other hand they are not ploughed out and they get deeper with every storm until very deep gullies are formed, which grow and grow until they swallow up fields, houses, roads and everything else. The loss of valuable soil which is washed off in this way is very serious indeed. Actual measurements show that from even very gentle slopes it may be as much as 20 tons of soil per acre each year, and from steep slopes badly terraced it may be as much as 150 tons of soil, which is equal to one inch depth of soil removed from the whole surface.

If none of the rain soaks into the ground, the springs and well levels will fall lower because no fresh water is going down to the deep storage levels, which supply the permanent springs. Floods become more sudden and severe and the drought periods when there is no rain become harder for men and cattle to bear because the water supplies become poorer each year. In our Province there is a great need for a steady and sustained flow of water through winter and summer and this can best be ensured by keeping the best possible plant cover on all the foot-hill slopes which catch the heaviest rainstorms.

How can you Prevent this Loss

By looking after your fields and grazing grounds better. All Punjabi zamindars know how to build a watt along the bottom of each field by using a "Karah" or scoop to heap up a ridge of earth. If this were done for every field and the *wattbandi* kept in proper repair, each field would keep more moisture and produce better crops. Many districts have good *watt-bandi* for their cultivation, but it has not occurred to anybody to do watt-bandi on their grazing grounds. If the grazing were better controlled and a portion set aside for grass cutting instead of grazing, the animals would be better fed. The best way to stop flood damage is by looking after the grazing grounds. It is not necessary to stop grazing altogether, but each piece of ground must be given a chance for grass and bushes to put on fresh growth and so protect the soil from erosion. Fewer animals should be kept and when grazing is poor they should be supplied with grass previously harvested. They would give far better milk yield and plough work and the ground would be saved from erosion.

—*East Punjab Information.*

MISCELLANEOUS TOPICS

Varagu Poisoning

The millet known as "Varagu" (Tamil), Kodra (Hindi), Pasupalum Scrobiculatum (Linn) is extensively used as a staple food by poorer classes in all parts of India. In 1946, when rice was rationed, the Government of Madras compulsorily required part of the rice to be replaced by varagu by those who were accustomed to use millets as food. Various complaints were received that some varieties of Varagu consumed were producing poisonous symptoms. On the recommendation of one of us (K.V.S.) a Committee consisting of the Surgeon-General, Director of Public Health, Director, King Institute, the Government Analyst and the Millet Specialist was constituted and they recommended that Government should undertake, through the Government Analyst, an investigation of Varagu Poisoning.

Some samples were found to be toxic to dogs. Stas Otto method was negative showing that the poison was not an alkaloid. But as a number of samples were found to be undoubtedly poisonous to dogs a systematic investigation was attempted. It was found that the fat residue obtained from extracts with Petroleum ether (B.P. 60–95°c) and chloroform was definitely toxic. 1·5 grams of the fat contained in 50 grams of the millet when fed to dogs, developed tremors within two hours. The dogs soon lost their power of movement and died within 24 hours. Attempts to feed monkeys with the fat failed as they refused to take the food. Subsequently we found that when the fat was injected subcutaneously into dogs the symptoms described above were observed. We were able to reproduce the symptoms in monkeys by injection. Crows were found to be extremely susceptible to both oral injection and intramuscular injection. After ten minutes of taking the food the crows vomit the food, the pupils become fixed, they droop their heads, soon lose power of moving and are dead in 24 hours. The fat is stable to heat but the toxic in the fat seems to be easily destroyed on heating with dilute alkali and acid. It could not be an alkaloid as it is not taken up in acid solution or a glucoside as it is not taken up by water or 90 per cent alcohol. The poison seems to be absorbed chromatographically on silica column and further experiments are in progress.

These facts seem not to have been recorded in literature so far as we are aware, viz., of a fat derived from a millet having been found to contain a substance which is poisonous to man and animals. Our findings of the effects by intramuscular injection on dogs, monkeys and especially on crows should provide a new method of approach for studying the presence of poisonous elements in fats and of estimating the lethal doses.

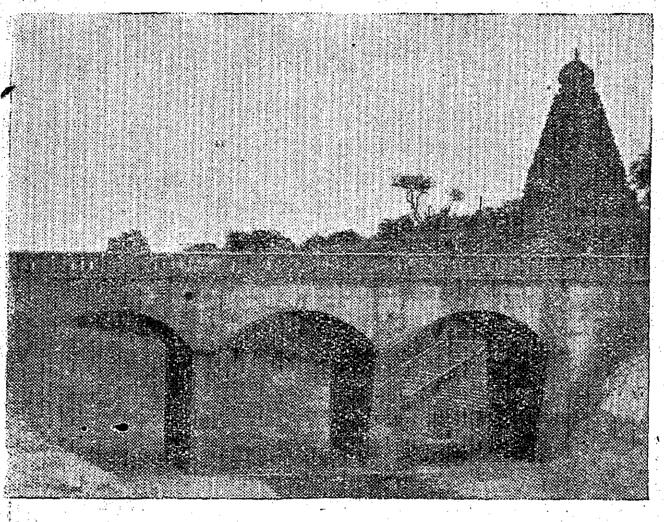
A simple colour test based on the reaction of concentrated sulphuric acid on the fat is being worked out to distinguish the poisonous variety of varagu from the non-poisonous variety of varagu. The defatted residue of varagu is entirely free from the poison and its consumption perfectly safe. When our investigation is completed, it is hoped to reclaim Varagu as a safe food. It is estimated that Varagu to the extent of 3 lakhs of tons are produced every year.

—K. V. Sundaram Ayyar.
—Capt. K. Narayanaswami.

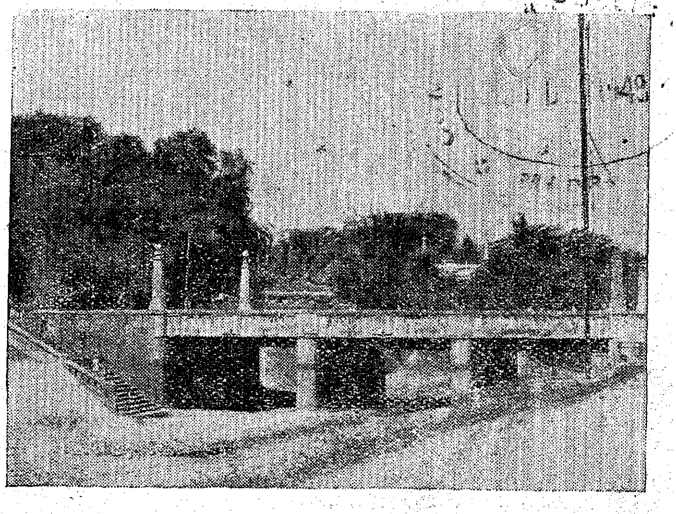
(*Continued from page* 18)

Society becomes free to the extent to which a democratic citizen willingly and cheerfully sacrifices his individual freedom so that the society may become really free. In every social situation, we have got to apply this test," observed Dr. V. S. Jha, Director of Public Instruction, addressing the students of the Women's College, Nagpur, recently.

Explaining what Social education implies, he impressed upon the audience how Social education is essentially connected with the problem of holding independence and how it is inherently linked up with the life and freedom of the people. "The best defence of a country does lie in building up of a sound and reliable national character," he averted and added, "we must learn to take difficulty with a smiling face and hold our heads high in the worst of storms. Social education aims at creating this consciousness and understanding."



Special class bridge across G.A. Canal at R.D. 13/49 near Big Temple, Tanjore



Special class bridge across G.A. Canal at R.D. 13/68

OTHER PROVINCES

Cottage Industries in Bombay

Mr. Vaikunthal Mehta, Finance Minister, in an interview announced the Provincial Government's plans to form a finance corporation to assist medium and small-scale cottage industries.

The corporation, he said would be set up in the beginning of the next financial year, 1949–50. The corporation, which would be a statutory body, would, by convention, primarily grant loans to medium and small-scale industries. It would have a special department for handicrafts and cottage industries, but would not be precluded from giving assistance to large-scale industries, such as cement and sugar.

* * *

Fruit Development in West Punjab

The Fruit and Vegetable Specialists Department of Agriculture, West Punjab, has prepared a tentative plan for the development on commercial lines of the Fruit Industry in the Murree Hills. Under this scheme, new areas of fertile land will be brought under fruit cultivation and fruits like apples, pears, peaches, plums, apricots, cherries, walnuts, almonds, olives and loquats will be grown in the Hills at different elevations. Experiments have already been carried out to ascertain the suitability of different varieties on different soils.

It is proposed to establish a Research Station and Model Farm Orchard in some suitable place where research on the scientific methods of fruit culture will be carried out under expert supervision.

* * *

Development of Palm Gur Industry in U.P.

For encouraging the development of palm gur industry in the Central Provinces and Berar, the Provincial Government have decided to organize two training centres in palm gur making. One centre will be for date palm and the other for palmyra gur. At each centre 40 candidates will be trained in two batches of 20 each. The course will be for a period of three months, and a monthly stipend of Rs. 30 to each candidate will be awarded besides free use of tools and pans, etc.

* * *

Village Industries Centres in Bombay

At an estimated annual expenditure of Rs. 59,460 the Government of Bombay have approved a scheme for the organization of two village industries centres for the manufacture of agricultural and other household implements on the lines recommended by the Manu Subedar Committee.

* * *

Development of Cottage Industries in Bombay

Twenty-three additional peripatetic schools are to be organized in Bombay Province. Of these two will be for cotton weaving, two for wool weaving, three for leather working, four for tanning, two for cane and bamboo work, one for wood turning and lacquer work, three for carpentry and smithy, three for fibre work, two for dyeing and printing and one for coir work.

The total expenditure on these schools during the year is estimated at Rs. 62,700 non-recurring and Rs. 1,87,582 recurring.

These schools will train over a period of one year any person desirous of taking up any of the cottage industries mentioned above as a vocation, preference being given to hereditary artisans. Twenty-five per cent of the seats at each party would be reserved for Backward Class candidates, preferably hereditary artisans from among them; only vacancies in the latter category will be allotted to other candidates.

* * *

Land Reclamation in U.P.

India's biggest land reclamation scheme is that relating to the Ganga Khadir colony. The colony is in U.P. It lies in the north-east corner of Meerut district comprising 47,000 acres of land. The colonisation scheme was sanctioned in 1947. It is India's first multi-purpose experiment in land development.

Assistance to Cottage Industries in Bombay

The Government of Bombay proposes to take a review of the assistance so far rendered, by way of subsidies, loans, etc., from time to time, in some typical major cottage industries of the Province. The intention is to see whether the assistance given has been adequate or whether any further assistance is required in the nature of protection against competition from large-scale industrial enterprise in deserving cases.

* * *

New Social Education Classes in C.P.

Reports received from the district educational authorities so far indicate that on the Vijaya-Dashmi Day as many as 3,721 new Social Education classes were opened throughout the province including the integrated states. It may be recalled that according to the scheme of expansion of Social Education, each class should consist of not less than 20 adults with an average attendance of not less than 15. In accordance with these instructions, it is estimated that over 60 thousand adults should have enrolled in these classes on the Vijaya-Dashmi Day itself.

* * *

Concessions to Educated Men Joining Police Force in Bombay

Matriculates seeking employment in the Bombay City Police Force will be given three years' seniority in the cadre of Police Constables and candidates who have passed the First Year course or the Intermediate Examination will straightway be recruited as Head Constables.

If you lived in New Zealand the average quantity of milk that you would drink a day would be 56 ounces, if in Great Britain 39 would be your usual amount, and in the United States 35, but here in India the average is only about 5·8 ounces a day per person. Yet India has about one-third of world's cattle.

Medical fees in U.P.

The U.P. Government has warned all Government Medical officers not to accept fees higher than the prescribed rates even if offered willingly by patients.

The Government has fixed the rates of fees to be charged by different classes of Government medical officers for visits to patients at their residences within the municipal headquarters limits. The fees per visit are exclusive of conveyance charges which have to be borne by patients.

* * *

Adult Education Drive in Bombay

With a view to properly conducting the literacy campaign in the cities having a large labour population, the Government of Bombay have appointed two separate Adult Education Committees in Ahmedabad and Sholapur for a period of three years, in the first instance.

The Committees will be independent of the Regional Adult Education Committees concerned and will have the powers necessary for organizing Adult Education classes and training classes for teachers and workers.

* * *

Co-operation in Bombay

As many as 531 Co-operative Societies embracing various activities were registered in the Province of Bombay during the first half of the year. Of these, 310 are in rural areas and 221 in Urban areas.

The following is the classification list of these societies according to the activities undertaken by them.

Rural.—Agricultural Credit and Thrift Societies (172); Multipurpose Societies (77); Crop Protection Societies (7); Better Farming Societies (20); Joint Farming (8); Purchase and Sale Union (1); Cattle Breeding Societies (2); Irrigation Societies (1); Housing Societies (22).

Urban.—Urban Banks and Societies (9); Salary Earner's Societies (7); Producers' Societies (70); Weavers' Societies (8); Consumers' Societies (28); Dairy Societies (4); Housing Societies (75); Motor Transport Societies (4); Education and Library Society (1); Electric Supply Society (1); Fruit and Vegetable Societies (5); General Societies (3); Supervising Union (1); Labourers' Society (1); District Co-operative Boards (3); Co-operative Work-shop (1).

Rural Medical Relief Committee

The Government of India have set up a Rural Medical Relief Committee to examine the proposals of the Bhore Committee for the establishment of a District Health Organization in order to provide an integrated curative and preventive health service, particularly in rural areas, and to suggest, in view of the financial and other difficulties, the stages by which Government may promote the development of such a service during the next five years.

Reclamation Planning in U.S.

United States reclamation and conservation officials have expressed interest in the recent Soviet announcement of a fifteen-year soil reclamation programme, a type of planning now almost routine in the United States.

United States conservationists have pointed out that irrigation projects for the development of land in California and other western states dated back to the last century. In modern times other vast projects for the reclamation of soil have been developed through the construction of huge dams in Colorada and the Pacific Northwest. These projects have opened millions of acres of new land and improved the soil in vast areas.

A soil erosion service, extending throughout the United States, has already been in operation for 15 years since it was established in 1933. Previously, in 1929 Congress had recognized the necessity for soil conservation by an appropriation for the establishment of erosion control experiment stations in various states.

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(*Continued from page* 13)

The Government of India have already placed the Minimum Wages Act on the Statute Book. The Provincial Government will have to adopt those provisions within their areas and that within three years. A minimum wage to the agricultural labourer who has no title to the land and who toils day in and day out to work out the produce of the land will have to be guaranteed.

Another important feature of reform must be the future land assignment policy of the Government. Of course it must be that the landless should get the most of the available cultivable banjar land with special preference given to Harijans and backward classes in the matter of assignment. In this connection the question of cultivation through co-operative farming will have to considered when large composite blocks of land are available for assignment and improvement.

BOOKS AND PUBLICATIONS

"AN OUTLINE OF INDIAN ART"

By P. RAJESWARA RAO. *Price. Rs.* 1-8-0. *Copies can be had from the author at Ellore.*

This is a small book running to 53 pages, and divided into 11 chapters giving in a small compass, an outline of Indian Art. The chapters on music, dancing, drama, painting, architecture and sculpture are especially interesting. The attitude of the average Indian towards matters relating to art must be said to be a luke warm one. There are many causes for this, the most important of which was foreign domination. Now that the country is free, it is necessary to stimulate interest in arts, and to this end, publications of this kind are useful.

"NATIONAL FOOD PLANNING"

By L. RAMACHANDRA RAO, M.SC. *Published by the Nature Cure Publishing House, Pudukottai. Price As.* 12.

This small booklet with 42 pages deals with some aspects of the food problem. It is common knowledge at present that India does not produce food enough for her teeming millions. The country has to depend on foreign imports. This state of affairs is obviously unsatisfactory and the Dominion and Provincial Governments have therefore planned on a comprehensive basis the stepping up of food production. In this context, the present publication is a timely one. The author deals with the quantitative and the qualitative aspects of food, the milk question and has also outlined a food plan for this country. The book gives useful information.

"TAMIL NAD CONGRESS COMMITTEE MONTHLY LETTER October 1948"

Circulated by the Department of Social and Economic Studies, Madras.

In democracy it is essential that every citizen should know what is being done by the State and organizations in the State in regard to the improvement of his lot. Democracy rests on the people's opinion and it has necessarily to be well-informed. The publication of the monthly letter by the Tamil Nad Congress Committee which seems a new innovation is designed to create a well informed public opinion. The venture of the Tamil Nad Congress Committee deserves all encouragement.

SYMBOLS OF PATRIOTISM

Patriotism is a mere word unless you realize the full meaning of it. Patriotism hereafter consists in work—honest and co-ordinated work. It does not consist in shouting or singing songs.

—*H.E. Sri C. Rajagopalachari.*

"THE STRATEGY AND TACTICS OF WORLD COMMUNISM"

A report by Special Committee No. 5 National and Inter-National Movements.

This is a very voluminous production containing a wealth of materials regarding communism. It is an accepted fact that communism is a grave world menace in the post-war period. It is striving to extend its conquests throughout the world step by step. In Asia communism is trying to spread its tentacles everywhere. The positions in China, Malaya and Burma are familiar facts. Enlightened world opinion considers it imperative to combat this menace. The book under review is a lucid survey of the strategies and tactics of communism. A knowledge of these is useful especially for those who still could not appreciate the dangerous implications involved in a communist domination. The book is a timely publication.

"MADRAS EMPLOYMENT EXCHANGE SOUVENIR"

This neatly got up production was brought out in connection with the exhibition organized by the Employment Service. It contains messages from His Excellency the Governor of Madras, Cabinet Members, Leaders and Employers. Interesting glimpses into the working of the Employment exchange and its role in the present set up are also given. The publication is a good publicity effort.

"MADRAS BOY SCOUTS ASSOCIATION SILVER JUBILEE SOUVENIR"

Price Rs. 2.

This book has been brought out to commemorate the Silver Jubilee of the Boy Scouts Association, Madras. It includes messages and interesting photographs. A chronological account of the Scout movement in the province also appears in the publication. Light has also been thrown on district scout councils.

The publication is an exquisite production.

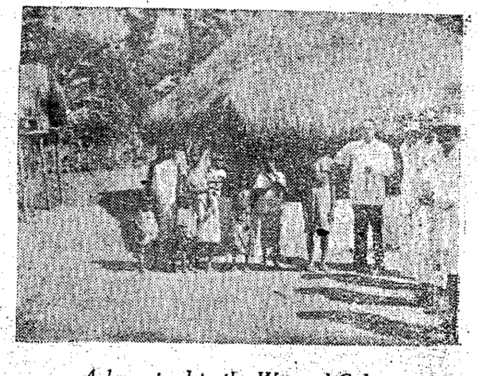
"FOOD CONTROL *v.* PEASANTS"

by PROF. N. G. RANGA.

Published by Andhra Provincial paddy Grower's Association, Nidubrolu, Price annas eight.

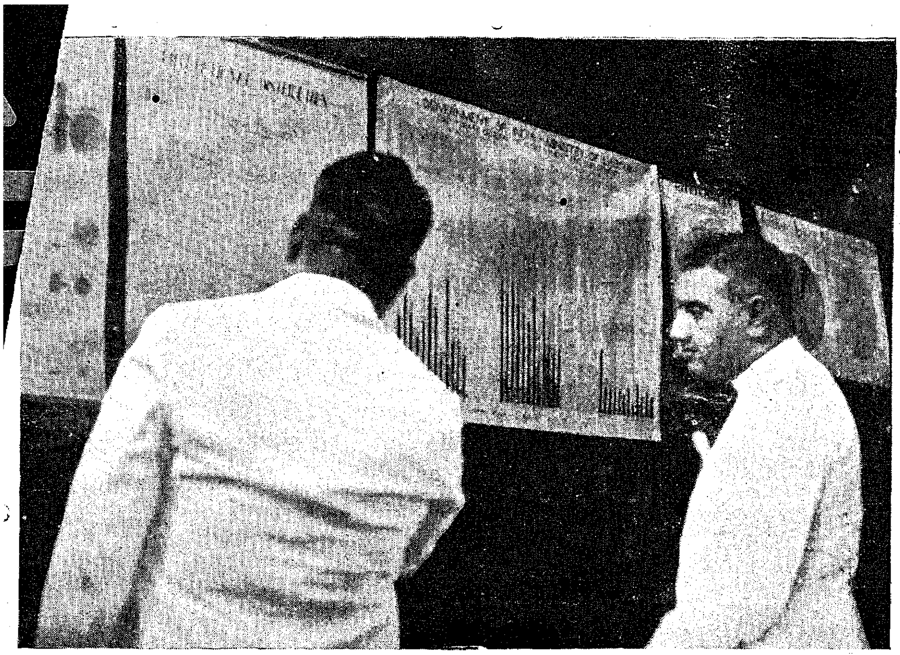
Professor Ranga is a reputed champion of Kisans and in this book which is his opening address at the Second Provincial Grain Producers' Conference, he pleads most passionately for the peasants. A comprehensive picture is given. Various interesting suggestions are also made. All may not perhaps agree with all what he has said, nevertheless the book is a lucid exposition of the peasants' case and deserves close perusal.

—*T.K.G.*



A homestead in the Wynaad Colony

Madras Employment Exchange—Governor's Visit



His Excellency the Governor observes the charts showing the employment trends at the Employment Exchange, Madras.

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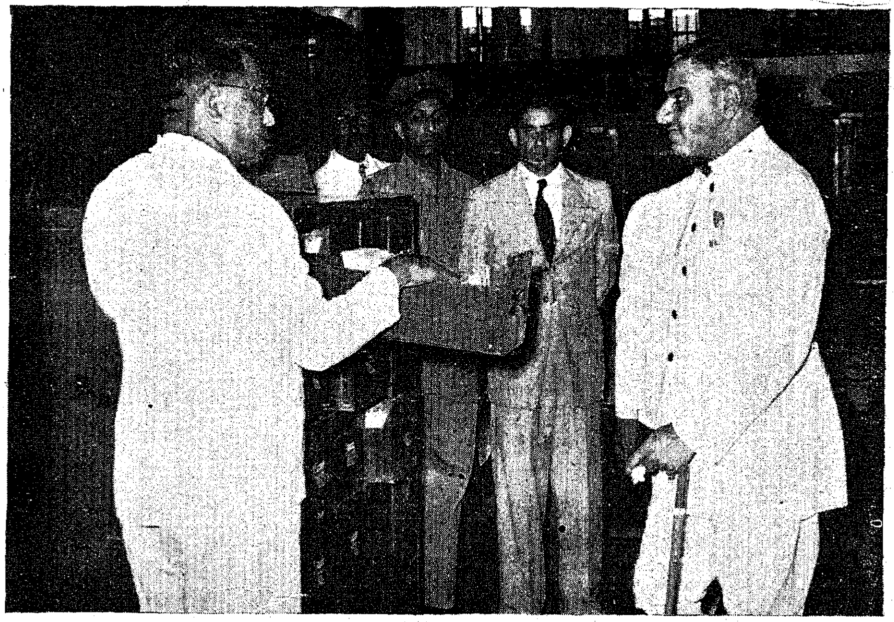
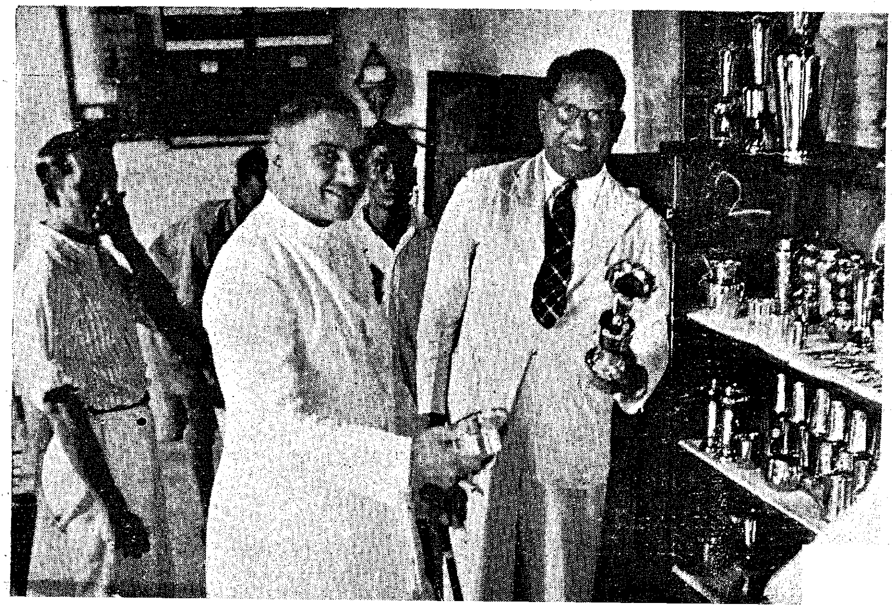
His Excellency the Governor examines the "Live Register" cards showing the several categories of workers available for jobs.





His Excellency the Govenror examines some of the articles of domestic utility manufactured by the Strathie Co-operative Engineering Workshops for ex-service-men, Madras.

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BAPALAL & CO.,

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